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Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE FIRST
GENERAL ELECTION UNDER THE
SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF
INDIA

NOVEMBER SESSION

VOLUME II

No. 32

The 24th November 1955



सत्यमेव जयते

1956

PRINTED AT THE ASSAM GOVERNMENT PRESS
SHILLONG.

Price 10 annas,

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

(Continued from page 1)

Vol. 11, No. 11

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No. 11

The 24th November 1955



1955

PRINTED AT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
SHEFFIELD

Price 10 shillings

**Proceedings of the Eighth Session of the Assam
Legislative Assembly assembled after the First
General Election under the Sovereign Democratic
Republican Constitution of India**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at
1-30 P.M., on Thursday, the 24th November, 1955.

P r e s e n t

Shri Rajendra Nath Barua, B. L., Deputy Speaker, in the
Chair, eight Ministers, the two Deputy Ministers, the two
Parliamentary Secretaries and seventy-four Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Chairman of Mangaldai Local Board

Shri DANDIRAM DUTTA asked :

1. (a) Whether the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government is aware that the Chairman of Mangaldai Local Board has been extorting money from the Board's Contractors by way of subscription to Congress Party Fund at the rate of 2 per cent on the tender value of each contract ?

(b) If so, will the Minister-in-charge be pleased to put an end to this practice in the interest of the public ?

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Minister) replied :

1. (a)—Government have no information. A report is being called for.

(b).—Does not arise.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Has the Minister-in-charge received any complaint from any person ?

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Minister):
No, Sir.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Recruitment of N.C.C. trained candidates as Project Executive Officers and Assistant Project Officers of Community Projects, etc.

Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI asked :

11. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government has declared to give preference to the N. C. C. trained candidates in the recruitment of Project Executive Officers and Assistant Project Officers of Community Projects, Community Development Blocks and National Extension Service Blocks since 1954 ?

(b) If so, whether any candidate having N. C. C. training was appointed to such posts ?

(c) If so, what is the number of such officers ?

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

11. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—Almost all the Project Executive Officers and Assistant Project Officers of the earlier Blocks were persons already in Government service and as such had no N. C. C. training. Among the officers provisionally recruited during the current year are two N. C. C. trained persons.

Erosions by Brahmaputra at Mohonaghat and Nagakhelia area at Dibrugarh

Shri RAMESH CHANDRA BAROOAH asked :

12. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware of erosions by Brahmaputra at Mohonaghat and Nagakhelia area at Dibrugarh ?

- (b) What steps Government propose to take to stop the said erosion which is a threat to the western part of the Dibrugarh Town and the Nagakhelia villages ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to construct further spurs to stop the erosion in the aforesaid area ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

12. (a)—Yes. There had been considerable erosion in two areas mentioned, in 1954, but considerably reduced erosion took place in 1955 after construction of Dibrugarh Protection Works.

(b) & (c)—One new spur at Panchali is under construction, which is expected to afford protection to the two areas mentioned also.

Shri DALBIR SINGH LOHAR : উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ মোহনাঘাট বন্ধাৰ (protection) কাৰণে পাঁচআলিত যিটো নতুন 'স্পাৰ' (spur) দিয়া হৈছে—অকল সিয়েই যথেষ্ট (sufficient) হবনে ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) : হয়। বিশেষজ্ঞ (expert) সকলৰ সিদ্ধান্ত অনুযায়ী যথেষ্ট বুলি ক'ব পৰা যায়।

Levy of tolls on the Kujia River

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB of Sidli asked :

13. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the right to realise tolls on the Kujia river on the Chapar-Basugaon road is sold to a contractor ?
- (b) Whether any toll was realised at this place even when there was ferry boat before the completion of the bridge ?

(c) Whether the bridge had been completed about six years ago and that no toll was realised till lately (since the last 2 months) ?

(d) Whether the introduction of levy of tolls was notified in the Gazette ?

(e) If so, when ?

(f) Whether there is any other instance of such levy on bridges in the Goalpara District after the completion of the bridge six years ago ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

13. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, as it was a toll ferry.

(c)—The bridge was completed on 1st March 1950, and since then no toll was realised till the last settlement from 1st April, 1955.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—This was notified at pages 253 and 254 of the *Assam Gazette*, dated 23rd February, 1955 (Part IIA).

(f)—No.

Panchayat Enquiry Report

Sriman PRAFULLA GOSWAMI asked :

14. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) What steps Government has taken on the Panchayat Enquiry Report ?

(b) What are the recommendations in the Panchayat Enquiry Report ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

14. (a)—On the recommendations of the Panchayat Enquiry Committee, Government have decided to establish 166 Rural Panchayats during the current year and 165 during 1956-57.

An amending Bill has been introduced in the Assembly for implementation of this and other recommendations.

(b)—The following are the principle recommendations of the Committee—

(1) The entire plains portion of the State should be covered by Panchayats within 2 years.

(2) The Local Boards should be replaced by Union Panchayats in the third year, *e. g.*, 1957-58.

(3) A revenue mouza should ordinarily be the basis of a Rural Panchayat subject to a maximum of 100 sqr. miles.

(4) In Cachar and non-mouza portion of Goalpara the basis should be 50 sqr. miles approximately.

(5) Tea and Industrial areas should be brought within the purview of Panchayats.

(6) Contributions to the new Panchayats should be at Rs.35,000 each within the first three years. Contributions to the existing Panchayats should continue as usual.

(7) The limit of 5 Primary Panchayats should be relaxed to a maximum of 15.

(8) Some of the disqualifications, *e. g.*, of Mouzadars enumerated in Section 16 of the Assam Rural Panchayat Act, 1948 should be removed.

(9) Panchayati Adalat should be constituted in selected Panchayats.

(10) All welfare and development activities should be canalised through Panchayats as far as practicable.

Kaziranga Tourist Lodge

Shri HARIHAR CHOUDHURY asked :

15. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to confer on the Members of the Legislature, both State and Central, right to occupy the Kaziranga Tourist Lodge irrespective to travelling on duty?

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) replied :

15.—No.

Compensatory Hill Allowance

Shri AARAN SANGMA asked :

16. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state whether Government are aware that there is a sense of dissatisfaction among the local people serving in the various Government Departments in Hill District of Assam as they were deprived of Compensatory Hill Allowance that was sanctioned to the Government officials serving in the Hills District from outside ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

16.—The question of extending the benefit of Hill Allowance to the Government employees who are native of the respective Autonomous Districts where they are now serving is under consideration of Government.

Jagi Road State Transport Station

Shri BALIRAM DAS asked :

17. Will the Minister-in-charge of the State Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Jagi Road State Transport Station is centrally situated between Nowgong and Gauhati ?

(b) Whether he is aware that due to mechanical defects, many of the State Transport buses generally remain lying on road-side for hours together in between the Gauhati-Nowgong route for which the passengers suffer for no fault of theirs ?

- (c) If the answer to the question (b) above is in affirmative, whether Government propose to keep some spare parts of buses, one mechanic for immediate repair and also one spare bus at Jagi Road to carry passengers from the road-side lying buses to give their immediate relief ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

17. (a)—The Jagi Road Station is situated in between Gauhati and Nowgong at a distance of 34 miles from Gauhati and 41 miles from Nowgong.

(b)—There were only three break-downs during the period between January, 1955 to October, 1955 and the passengers were given relief by the next available services.

(c)—One vehicle with a driver-cum-mechanic has since been placed at Jagi Road for any emergency. A store of fast moving spares is being kept at Jagi Road Station.

Vacancy of a Seat in the Garo Hills District Council

Shri AARAN SANGMA asked :

18. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that a seat has fallen vacant because of the death of a nominated member of the Garo Hills District Council ?

(b) If so, since when the seat is lying vacant ?

(c) Whether any new member has been nominated to fill up the vacancy ?

(d) If not, why not ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) replied :

18. (a) & (b)—A seat fell vacant due to the death of a nominated member on the 24th April, 1953.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Does not arise.

Nowgong-Lawkhoa Road

Shri LILA KANTA BARAH asked :

19. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Rupahi-Lawkhoa part of the Nowgong-Lawkhoa road was undertaken as a measure of post-war scheme ?
- (b) If so, in which year the construction of the road was undertaken ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the construction of the road, including some bridges, has not yet been completed ?
- (d) If so, what works are still pending and why ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) replied :

19. (a)—Yes.

(b)—In the year 1948, but stopped in 1949. Works resumed in November, 1953 under the first Five Year Plan.

(c)—No. Construction work was completed except one bridge in 16th mile, which will be taken up after the alignment of Brahmaputra Bund is finalised.

(d)—Besides the bridge in 16th mile, one bridge in 15th mile has been damaged and some breaches made by flood. The bridge in the 15th mile will be restored as soon as Rolled Steel joists are received and the breaches will be restored in this winter.

Advertisement of Cinematograph shows at Dhubri

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB of Sidli asked :

20. Will the Minister, Local Self-Government, be pleased to state—

- (a) If he is aware that cinematograph shows are advertised at Dhubri with loud-speakers mounted on rickshaws moving on all the roads ?
- (b) If it is a fact that the Municipal Board passed some bye laws restricting such nuisance and sent the bye-laws for the approval of the Government ?
- (c) If it is a fact that the Government have not taken action within last one year ?

- (d) Whether the Government propose to approve of the bye-laws of Dhubri Municipal Board and send them back to Dhubri shortly ?
- (e) If not, why ?

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Minister) replied :

20. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No. The bye-laws framed by the Dhubri Municipal Board for the regulation of the use of loud-speakers was not comprehensive. Government, therefore, asked the Board on 14th November, 1954 to frame a fresh set of bye-laws for this purpose and to submit same to Government for necessary action. But up till now no fresh proposal has been received from the Board.

(d) & (e)—Do not arise.

Rehabilitation of Erosion-affected People in Barpeta Subdivision

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED asked :

21. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) The names of the villages mouza-wise and the number of families affected by erosion of river-water in Barpeta Subdivision during the years 1954 and 1955 ?
- (b) Whether any river-eroded families of Barpeta Subdivision were rehabilitated during the years 1954 and 1955 ?
- (c) If so, how many ?
- (d) If not, why not ?
- (e) The amount given as relief to the flood-affected and river-eroded people of Barpeta Subdivision during the years 1954 and 1955 ?

22. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government has any plan for the rehabilitation of the river-eroded people of the Barpeta Subdivision ?

(b) If so, what is that plan ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) replied :

21. (a)—A statement showing the names of villages mouza-wise and the number of families affected by erosion in Barpeta Subdivision during 1954 and 1955, is placed in the library table.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—165 families were rehabilitated in 1954. Temporary shelter has been given to some eroded families during 1955. Steps have also been taken for their permanent rehabilitation where necessary.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—The following amounts were given as a measure of relief in 1954 and 1955.

	1954	1955
	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Gratuitous Relief	30,000	5,000
(2) Test Relief	65,000	Nil
(3) Agricultural Loan including Seed and Cattle Loan.	3,90,000	Nil
Total ..	4,85,000	5,000

22. (a) & (b)—The matter is under examination.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I draw your attention to one thing ? The House is very cold and at least some attention should be given to this matter.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is a matter for the House Committee. Any way, we will place this matter before the House Committee.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 19-

50—Civil Work—Excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam I beg, to move that an additional amount of Rs.16,92,977 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works—excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment".

Sir, the details have been given and explained in the explanatory notes below for the necessity of this demand.

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 6,49,95,500

II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session. 4,90,641

Additional amount now required 16,92,977

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for:—

Major and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)

NORMAL

A—Original Works—

(a) Buildings—

	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Land Revenue	2,66,800	..	..	..	20,000	..	20,000
2. Excise	..	..	..	..	7,500	..	7,500
3. General Administration.	18,38,207	1,03,597	12,387	6,613	37,017	55,000	92,017

Grant originally voted by the Assembly Supplementary Grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session Grant Additional amount now required

Major and Sub-head	General		Sixth Schedule		General		Sixth Schedule		Total.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
4. Education ..	14,46,713	1,90,209	1,04,010	..	3,93,300	..	3,93,300	..	3,93,300
5. Civil Works ..	4,15,911	3,62,436	..	..	16,560	30,000	46,560	..	46,560
(b) Communications—									
1. Ordinary Roads	35,79,248	6,88,418	20,000	..	1,71,000	57,600	2,28,600	..	2,28,600
Total—(A) ..	75,46,879	13,44,660	1,36,397	6,613	6,45,377	1,42,600	7,87,977	..	7,87,977

Development Schemes
(Article 275)—

D. I.—Grants-in-aid for Communications—2.—Grants to Local Boards—Non-recurring.	..	..	..	..	25,000	..	25,000	..	25,000
Total	..	..	..	..	25,000	..	25,000	..	25,000

DEVELOPMENT
SCHEME (FIVE-YEAR
PLAN)

A-2.—Original Works—

(a) Buildings—

Education ..	2,50,000	..	92,000	..	8,00,000	..	8,00,000	..	8,00,000
Agriculture ..	2,68,500	..	30,000	..	80,000	..	80,000	..	80,000
Total—A-2 ..	5,18,500	..	1,22,000	..	8,80,000	..	8,80,000	..	8,80,000
Grand Total ..	80,65,379	13,44,660	2,58,397	6,613	15,50,377	1,42,600	16,92,977	..	16,92,977

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs. 16,92,977 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in

the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works—excluding Tools and Plant and Establishment".

There is no Cut Motion.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted.)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 20.

"54—Famine Relief"

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, to move that an additional amount of Rs. 17,55,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "54—Famine Relief.

Sir, the details are given below and the explanatory notes will explain the necessity of this grant.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	26,91,700
Additional grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session.	2,25,000
II.—Additional amount now required	17,55,000
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—	

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional Grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(a) Relief Works ..	1,00,000	20,06,700	2,00,000	..	5,00,000	..	5,00,000
(b) Gratuitous Relief.	3,00,000	1,34,850	..	25,000	12,00,000	30,000	12,30,000
(c) Salaries and Establishment	25,000	..	..	..	25,000	..	25,000
Total ..	4,25,000	21,40,550	2,00,000	25,000	17,25,000	30,000	17,55,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(a) The amount required under the sub-head "(a) Relief Works" is meant for Test Relief Works on the roads and bridges damaged by floods, which will render relief to the affected people, and will also reduce the volume of gratuitous relief.

(b) (i) In order to render adequate relief to the flood-affected people a sum of Rs. 9,00,000 was taken as an advance from the Contingency Fund. It is also expected that at least a further sum of Rs. 3,00,000 will be required in rendering relief to the people affected by natural calamities. Hence, a sum of Rs. 12,00,000 is proposed to be taken for the present under the sub-head "(b) Gratuitous Relief"—(General). (ii) Sixth Schedule 'Part A' Areas.—This amount is required for grant of Gratuitous relief to the people of the Mizo District who are in the extreme hardship due to failure of their crops. No provision for this unforeseen expenditure could be made in the current year's Budget and to meet the immediate expenditure the amount was advanced from the Contingency Fund.

(c) Under the sub-head "(c) Salaries and Establishment" there was an original budget provision of Rs. 25,000. But in connection with flood relief boats were sanctioned for various parts of the State. For entertainment of drivers, boatmen and chowkidars, etc., the said amount fell short and so a sum of Rs. 20,000 was taken as an advance from the Contingency Fund. It is also expected that a further sum of Rs. 5,000 will be required for the remaining period of the current financial year. Hence Rs. 25,000 is proposed under this sub-head.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs. 17,55,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief."

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 12,30,000, under Supplementary Demand No. 20, Major head—54.—Famine Relief, Minor head—(b)—Gratuitous Relief at page 51 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs. 17,55,000, do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Sir, my whole purpose in moving this Cut Motion is to bring to the notice of the House that in certain areas gratuitous relief has not been given, and where it has been given the gratuitous relief is very inadequate to fulfil the need of the affected people.

At page 51, in the explanatory notes at (a) it is stated: the amount required is meant for Test Relief works on the roads and bridges damaged by floods, which will render relief to the affected people, and will also reduce the volume of gratuitous relief.

(b) (i) In order to render adequate relief to the flood-affected people a sum of Rs.9,00,000 was taken as an advance from the Contingency Fund. It is also expected that at least a further sum of Rs.3,00,000 will be required in rendering relief to the people affected by natural calamities. Hence, a sum of Rs.12,00,000 is proposed to be taken for the present under the sub-head "(b) Gratuitous Relief"—(General); (ii) Sixth Schedule 'Part A' Areas—This amount is required for grant of gratuitous relief to the people of the Mizo District who are in the extreme hardship due to failure of their crops. No provision for this unforeseen expenditure could be made in the current year's Budget and to meet the immediate expenditure the amount was advanced from the Contingency Fund.

Here, I have full sympathy with the people of the Mizo district and it is a fact that due to the loss of their market as well as occasional failure of crop they have suffered most and it is necessary that we should give them gratuitous relief so that they can somehow live. But, Sir, when we speak about the hills, we have to speak about the plains also. I have information that in many areas this time also crop has failed and in certain areas due to chronic floods in the last few years, the whole cultivable land has been covered with sand and no cultivation has been possible there. I can say that in Sibsagar Subdivision, Nitaipukhuri and Panidehing mauzas have been very much affected by flood. Similarly in South Kamrup, Pubsamaria and some other mauzas have greatly suffered. In Tezpur it is not only a question of failure of crop, even no crop could be cultivated in those areas at all. On the other hand it has not been possible to shift the people from those areas to other areas where they could do some cultivation. Again, this time in Pubsamaria, due to crop failure and other reasons, many suffered from cholera, because due to crop failure there was shortage of food and therefore people lost their resistance power, and due to bad water which they perhaps used to get from the Brahmaputra, many people died of cholera in some areas in the south bank and I was told, no gratuitous relief worth the name has been given to them and even no test relief work has been started there. Last year test relief work started in Dakhinsarubansha mauza, but that was started too late and many people could not get any benefit. The purpose of test relief work was to give them relief and keep them alive, but if this relief is not given in time, such relief work serve no useful purpose. Sir, in these places as in the Mizo hills, immediate necessity has cropped up when we have got to give them more gratuitous relief and as nothing has been given to those places, some amount should be given now so that these people can live

for some time. Also for Nitaipukhuri and Panidehing mouzas as I just said some gratuitous relief should be immediately rushed in. Sir, I have received a telegram only day before yesterday saying that some people have died, may be not due to starvation but some other causes arising out of scarcity conditions. I have also seen a report in the paper that the situation there is very serious. This year crop has failed in those areas. I went myself to see the areas. So in those areas also gratuitous relief should be given and unless we give those people alternative land to cultivate, so long we cannot do so, it is necessary that they should be given test relief work so that they can work and live somehow. With these words I draw the attention of the House to these areas so that gratuitous relief may be granted and test relief work may be started in those areas in order that people can keep their body and soul together.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the provision of Rs.12,30,000 under Supplementary Demand No.20, Major head—54.—Famine Relief, Minor head—(b)—gratuitous relief at page 51 of the list of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.17,55,00.) do stand reduced by Re.1.

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I take my stand to support the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Mr. Hareswar Goswami. The southern side of Barpeta Subdivision was the worst affected area by flood. Thousands of families have been rendered homeless and landless due to the erosion of the river and practically all their crops have been destroyed. From the answer to question No.21 we have found that no test relief work nor agricultural loan nor seed loan or anything of the kind was given to this area during the year 1955. But these people deserve consideration, because they are quite helpless and are living here and there like Gypsies. When we have seen that some districts are getting some kind of relief and Barpeta will not get anything, it is quite unfair for us. So I support the Cut Motion moved by Shri Goswami.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Friend, Mr. Goswami by bringing forward this Cut Motion has tried to draw the pointed attention of the Government to certain facts of scarcity prevailing in our country. My Friend has also brought to the notice of the Government that gratuitous relief has not been given in some places and in some places where gratuitous relief has been given it is also not adequate. According to him, in some places there has been crop failure and in some places on account of some land being covered with sand people could not cultivate

there. He has brought to the notice of the Government conditions of the people in Panidehing and Nitaipukhuri mouzas of Sibsagar Subdivision where, according to him, acute scarcity conditions are prevailing and therefore by means of this Cut Motion he had tried to bring to the notice of the Government the need of making relief measures more liberal. That is mainly his contention and he has been supported by his friend behind.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I was speaking about Pubsamaria also.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): I have got that. It is an accidental mistake on my part that I forgot to mention that. My Friend has also brought to the notice of the Government that acute conditions are prevailing in some places in Pubsamaria mouza due to crop failure. My Friend from Barpeta has also brought to the notice of the Government that in his constituency or somewhere in Barpeta Subdivision the conditions are similar but the people there are not getting adequate relief. These are the main points of my Friends in the Opposition.

Now, Sir, for information of the House I should like to say that the measures taken by the Government by way of relief are not certainly inadequate as will be apparent from certain facts that I have proposed to place before the House. For test relief work and other things such as gratuitous relief and Agricultural Loan, etc., Government have spent during these 8 months of the current year from April to November quite a good deal of amount. I give the figures:

	Rs.
On gratuitous relief the amount spent is	9,26,970
On test relief work	9,20,000
On agricultural loan	10,82,677
On rehabilitation loan	12,60,890

Therefore during these 8 months of the year we have spent about 35 lakhs and there are still 4 months of the year during which we will have to spend a good deal of amount. So what the Government has spent during these 8 months cannot be called inadequate or insufficient. It is quite possible that in some places the relief given may not be adequate and accidentally some villages may have been left out.

In some places accidentally some villages may have been left out. It is quite possible and I assure my Friends that it is not intentional on the part of the Officers.

For the information of the hon. Members in the House I should like to state another thing. Government is prepared to be more liberal in the matter of giving test relief work. Last year also we spent near about 35 lakhs of rupees in test relief. This year also we propose to spend an equal amount on test

relief if necessary. The other day Government invited all the Chairmen of Local Bodies of our State. A very large number of the Chairmen of the Local Bodies including the Development Officers of the seven Plains districts attended the conference. It was decided here that near about 40 lakhs of rupees will be distributed among the Local Bodies who will be required to make 25 per cent contribution. An amount equal to 37½ per cent will be given by the Government of India, another 37½ per cent will be given by the State Government and 25 per cent will have to be contributed by the Boards. It has later been decided to reduce the contribution of the Local Bodies to 12½ per cent where they will spend this amount by way of test relief. Government desire that, if possible, this entire amount of 40 lakhs of rupees may be spent on test relief work. Government welcome our Local Bodies to undertake this work and spend the entire amount on test relief specially in view of the fact that their contribution for this will stand further reduced. All these go to show that Government want to be very liberal in this matter, and now it only depends on the Local Bodies to undertake test relief work in right earnest. Not only that, Government have also agreed to contribute another sum of Rs.22 lakhs for restoration of damages caused to our school buildings in the flood-affected areas. From this amount also our Aided Schools, Lower Primary Schools, Middle Vernacular Schools and the like affected during the floods will be greatly benefited. If this amount is also sought to be spent on test relief basis, that is also welcome to Government. Besides these, Public Works Department has made some provision under certain Public Works Department rules to spend some amount on test relief work where possible. If people now come forward to take up Public Works Department work on test relief basis, they will be welcome. Thus it will be seen that the measures already taken and proposed to be taken by Government to give relief to our people by means of test relief is not negligible.

As regards agricultural loan I have already stated that a sum of Rs.10,82,000 has already been spent during these 8 months and for rehabilitation, the amount spent is more than Rs.12 lakhs. This has, however, not fully met the demand of our people. Plenty of demands have been pouring in from different quarters in the districts for rehabilitation of the people who have not yet been rehabilitated. Therefore, a further sum of Rs.10 or 12 lakhs will be necessary in this respect in addition to the amount that has been already spent. Even in spite of this, it cannot be said that what the Government have already done or are proposing to do is entirely inadequate having in view the limited financial resources at their disposal.

Mr. Goswami has brought to our notice about the acute scarcity that has been prevailing in the Panidehing area. I admit that certain amount of scarcity has been felt by the people living in that area. But in order to alleviate their distress.—Government have already started cheap grain shops there. But the problem there is not one of temporary nature. A sort of perennial scarcity conditions prevail in that area. Therefore this problem cannot be solved only by test relief work unless we provide lands to these landless people. This area covering many villages with thousands of people have almost become totally destitute due to natural calamities. We tried our level best to give soccour and relief by way of test relief, and gratuitous relief and also by opening cheap-grain shops and other methods. But the problem has become so very difficult that the methods by which we have so far tried to give them relief have not proved to be quite successful. Our efforts are not likely to be fruitful unless we can provide these people with lands and rehabilitate them in some other place. We are considering this aspect of the matter and are trying to ascertain if any area from the neighbouring Forest Reserve can be thrown open to these people. That matter is being examined by my Friend the Hon'ble Minister for Forests, who has already passed orders to examine the question of availability of Forest lands so that these people may be settled there.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI: On a point of information, Sir, are the Government aware that several houses including their household commodities were washed away by the breach in the Brahmaputra bund ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Sir, that is not the only area where people have been affected like that due to breaches in the bunds. Exactly a similar thing has happened in other areas also. Therefore it cannot be said to be an isolated case. Such things have happened in other parts of Assam. Further as a result of the alignment of the bunds having been fixed at safer distance from the rivers, some people come in between the bunds and the rivers. Such people generally suffer during the floods and we are now required to take measures for rehabilitating them in suitable sites.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI: My question is, Sir, in a certain locality in Naopara about 500 houses with all their belongings, such as utensils and other articles of domestic use, have been washed away. Have the Government got any information about that ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): The important thing that is to be remembered in this connection is the question of rehabilitation of these affected people—how and where they are to be rehabilitated ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI: My question is, Sir, houses have been washed away, their utensils and all their belongings lost. Have the Government made any provision for their relief ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): There is a general instruction issued by the Government to all Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers to take suitable measures where such things take place. They have also been given authority by the Government to rehabilitate them and give them gratuitous relief. I do not know whether the District Officers have complied with this instruction or not. But if my friend can give me any information that this had not been done, I will take necessary action on it.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: On a point of information, Sir, I learnt that the cheap grain shops that have been started there are not adequate. Will the Government see that more such cheapgrain shops are started ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Sir, yesterday only I got a communique from the Subdivisional Officer, Sibsagar who said that scarcity was prevailing and did not mention that it was very acute. But Government had already issued instructions to the Subdivisional Officer, Sibsagar to start as many cheap grain shops as are needed. This matter was also discussed by me with the members of the Legislature from Sibsagar Subdivision when I had been to that place and the result of the discussion was that cheap grain shops should be started. These had already been started accordingly. But so far I have not heard any complaint that the number is very few and should be increased. But, now, if I find that this is necessary, I shall increase the number.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI: On a point of information, Sir, I beg to inform that I am the Member of this Constituency, and so far this Constituency is concerned, necessary subsidy had already been provided.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Sir, I am thankful to Mr. Hareswar Goswami for giving us information regarding the condition prevailing there. I also happen to see in the newspaper cutting that the condition of the people has been reported to be very serious. Accordingly, I have immediately issued instruction to the Subdivisional Officer there and have asked him to send telegraphic report on the condition

prevailing there and also instructed him to take prompt action to mitigate these acute difficulties prevailing in that area. So far Pubsamaria and other places are concerned, if needed relief work will be increased on demand from Deputy Commissioner. I had issued circulars to the Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers to enquire of the Development Officers and Panchayats whether any test relief work can be started in this area and whenever any authority request the Government that on account of the prevailing scarcity they want to undertake relief work, Government is prepared to grant them money for that purpose. If they are ready to undertake the work, Government will be quite prepared to help the people in time of need. Of course relief is never given when it is not needed. But if there are helpless people who really need such relief and if there is demand for this, we shall issue direction to the District Officers to see to such cases promptly. It will, therefore, be quite apparent from what I have said that Government is prepared to do whatever is humanly possible for them to do. And as I have taken note of the suggestions made by my friends in the Opposition, I hope my Friend, Mr. Hareswar Goswami will be pleased to withdraw his Cut Motion.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: On the assurance of the Minister that the area will be given due attention, I withdraw my Cut Motion.

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House withdrawn)

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, an additional amount of Rs.17,55,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head '54.—Famine Relief'.

(The Motion was adopted.)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.21 "56—STATIONERY AND PRINTING."

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional sum of Rs.56,145, be granted to

the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	11,11,100
II.—Grant voted by the Assembly during June, 1955 Session.	6,75,828
Additional amount now required ..	56,145
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary grant will be accounted for—	..

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly	Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		Total
		General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Stationery—						
B.—Stationery Stores						
Purchase in India—						
(ii) Other stores	..	50,000	1,500	..	..	45,000
C.—Stationery Office: and	..					
Stores, Shillong	..					
Gauhati Offices—	..					
(i) Pay of Officers	..	2,520	..	..	10	10
(2) of Establishment	..	9,300	..	..	2,015	2,015
(3) Allowances	..	6,500	..	..	2,120	2,120
Honoraria.	..					
(4) Contingencies	..	23,300	..	14,000	..	7,000
Total	..	91,320	1,500	14,000	..	56,145

The explanatory notes given below will explain the need for the Demand.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

B. (ii) Some bills for the supply of stationery during the last financial year were received too late for payment that year. The additional amount is necessary to make payment of the bills.

C. (i) The amount is necessary to pay the increment for February, 1956 to the Superintendent in-charge, Gauhati Stationery Office.

(2) & (3) To meet the expenditure on additional staff recently sanctioned by the Government.

4. The amount is necessary to pay the freight charges of paper and stationery consignments and also for the purchase of furniture. The original provision is inadequate.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, an additional

sum of Rs.56,145, be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir even though there is no Cut Motion on this demand, I want to speak something. Sir, there had been complaints that the office of the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta had been running with the shortage of many forms, *e. g.*, summon forms, warrant forms, chalan forms, etc., and the work had not been done smoothly due to this difficulty. Unnecessary delays had been made in disposing of cases, etc. I hope the Minister-in-charge will kindly clear this point why necessary forms were not supplied to the office of Subdivisional Officer at Barpeta and I think the Minister-in-charge will explain the matter.

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am afraid, I cannot accept the statement made by my Friend that the office of the Subdivisional Officer Barpeta and the Barpeta Court are going on without any form at all. If there was any need of forms then Subdivisional Officer, should have made requisition for supplying the forms. But as far as I know there had never been such a great shortage of forms. There may be shortage of one or two forms for sometime but it is beyond my comprehension to think that the Court was going on without forms.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : Sir, will the Minister in-charge be pleased to enquire into the real scarcity of important form in almost all the Courts ?

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) : I want to make a statement in this regard. It has been brought to our notice that important forms are often taken away by responsible persons in great number and some times used for smoking 'Hukka' instead of making proper use of them and naturally the shortage of some such forms is partly due to such waste. Therefore, in order to put a stop to such misuse of forms we are thinking of levying a certain charge for the use of some forms. If the hon. Members agree to the proposed levy of charge then we can do so.

Shri NARNARAYAN GOSWAMI : Sir, I may be allowed to speak a few words in this respect. I raise some objections to the remarks made just now. We have often become subject to criticism for want of forms. As far as Gauhati Court is concerned, Sir, I know that no form is utilised

otherwise than for the real purpose. Of course S. P. forms might be utilised for other purposes by irresponsible persons but that is done only very rarely. Informants should be made sufficiently available. Chalan forms are even not available. Chalan forms cannot be used for other purpose. Our Government has not paid due attention in the matter of shortage of challan and other forms and for that reason we know what difficulties we are to face.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): What I mean is that it is some persons to whom forms are issued, misuse such forms.

Shri NARNARAYAN GOSWAMI: At least the lawyers are also meant thereby.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the Chief Minister did not mean 'lawyers'.

Shri NARNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Lawyers are cautious and I can inform the Cabinet Ministers that in the presence of the lawyers nothing such happens.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): I think no lawyers take charge of such forms. Generally they are taken away by the petition writers who are expected to be as responsible persons as lawyers. I have myself seen how some forms including challan forms being taken away easily for smoking 'Hukka' instead of using them in proper place.

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS: Sir, that was the procedure about 10 or 15 years back and not now.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Sir, we are very much away from the subject under discussion. There is some scarcity of those forms and I have personal experience that in the Treasury we do not get challan forms and as such we have to write in ordinary papers.

Regarding the point raised by the Chief Minister, I think, if a levy is charged, the people will not like such a levy and they are used on very important occasions. I therefore request the Government to think twice before deciding to levy any charge for the use of such forms. I personally am not in favour of levying any charge.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Then what alternative suggestion he wants to make to stop wastage of such forms. I want to know.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: So far as wastage is concerned, Sir, I do not know whether it is so great as to force us to levy a charge for the use of those forms. I do not agree to the statement of the Chief Minister that everyday or often, quite a large number of those forms are used in that manner. Sometimes some such forms may be used, but that cannot be a justification for levying a charge for their use.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): The levy will be only for covering the cost of the paper and printing.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Even then it will not be appreciated by the people.

Shri BISWADEV SARMA: Sir, at Tezpur nobody takes away forms for smoking 'Hukka' in the bar Library.

Shri NARNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Sir, when during the British regime there was good supply of forms, the public should not suffer now for want of forms. I think the Minister concerned has not paid full attention to this matter of shortage of forms. I hope he will give due attention to this matter and help the public by supplying the necessary forms.

Shri DALBIR SINGH LOHAR: উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, ফর্মৰ অভাৱৰ বিষয়ে মই এটা কথা কব খোজোঁ-আমাৰ ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰ কথাকে কওঁ। Excise settlement ৰ সময়ত যথেষ্ট চালান ফর্ম ব্যৱসায়ী মানুহবোৰে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰে আৰু পাচত ব্যৱহাৰ কৰিবৰ কাৰণেও ঘৰলৈ লৈ যায়। তাৰোপৰি অন্যান্য ফর্মবোৰো তৰনী, মহৰী আদিয়ে ব্যৱহাৰৰ কাৰণে ঘৰত নি ৰাখে।

(voices: আমি কচাৰীৰ ফর্মৰ কথাহে কৈছোঁ, আন ফর্ম নহয়।)

তথাপি এই ফর্মৰ অভাৱতো স্বীকাৰ কৰিব লাগিব।

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister): As I have said, Sir, I do not admit that there is no form at all in the Barpeta court. There may be shortage here and there some times and that is occasionally due to the failure of the Government Press to print the required amount of forms. It is known to the hon. Members that the activities of the Government have increased and are increasing in such a way that the Government Press has not been able to meet the demand. But Government is not neglecting their duties. On one side we are trying to develop the Government Press and on the other we are trying our utmost to meet the emergent requirement by printing forms through various private Presses in Assam.

Mr. Narnarayan Goswami has said that during the British regime there was good supply of forms and that there was no shortage of forms. I should like to say that during the British time there was not so much activities of the all round developmental works in the State as we see them now. Therefore, those days should not be compared with the present days.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is that an additional sum of Rs.56,145 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "56—Stationery and Printing".

(The Motion was adopted.)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No. 22

"57.—Miscellaneous—II—Expenditure on account of State prisoners and Detenues, etc."

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional sum of Rs.1,75,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—II.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners and Deteneus, etc."

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly...	Rs.
I.—Supplementary grant voted by Assem- ...	4,18,800
bly during June, 1955 Session. ...	...
Additional amount now required ...	...
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—	1,75,000

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session.			Additional amount now required.	
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7) (8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. C.—Contribution—							
Development Scheme under Article 275 of the Constitution.	75,000	100,000	..	..	75,000	50,000	1,25,000
2. (2) Miscellaneous Contribution—							
Grant to societies doing welfare activities.	..	..	..	..	50,000	..	50,000
Total	75,000	1,00,000	..	..	1,25,000	50,000	1,75,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Against the Government of India's sanctioned grant of Rs.3,00,000 under Article 275 of the Constitution for contribution to non-Government Institution doing welfare works for the Tribal People in the Autonomous District and in the Plains Tribal Areas, during the current year, there is a provision of Rs.1,75,000 in the State budget. The sanction of Government of India was received in August last. To facilitate timely distribution and proper utilisation of the Grant the balance of Rs.1,25,000 has been provided by taking an advance from the Constigency Fund. Hence this demand.

2. It has been recently decided by the Government that some contribution should be made to non-Government Institutions doing constructive work in the State for encouragement of social welfare activities in order to ameliorate the condition of the people and also to raise their economic standard. Under Article 275 Government of India contribute some amount to non-Government Institution doing welfare work for Tribal People only. But as it is necessary to contribute some amount to non-Tribal people also for the reason stated above, the Government has decided to make provision of Rs.50,000 by Supplementary Demand as no provision could be made because of the recent decision. Hence the Supplementary Demand.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved is that an additional sum of Rs. 1,75,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous [II.—Expenditure on account of State Prisoners, and Detenues, etc.]

(The Motion was put by the Chair, as a question before the House and was adopted.)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.23.

"57—Miscellaneous—II—Donation for charitable purpose, etc."

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.70,667 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "57.—Micellaneous II,—Donation for charitable purpose, etc."

The details are given in the statement below and the Explanatory Notes will explain the reasons for this Demand:—
Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly 17,70,500

Additional grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session. 2,20,731

II.—Additional amount now required 70,667

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—

	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional Grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		
Minor and sub-head	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A.—Cost of Books and periodicals.	5,000	..	..	..	37,956	..	37,956
D.—Petty Establishment—							
(a) Circuit and Sessions Houses.	84,900	7,686	30,000	..	22,368	..	22,368
E.—Irrecoverable Temporary Loans and Advances written off.	8,000	..	..	..	8,343	..	8,343
H.—Contributions—							
(b) Miscellaneous (voted).	53,000	..	..	53,000	..	1,200	1,200
J.—Miscellaneous and Unforeseen Charges—Miscellaneous charges.	10,01,700	2,550	..	3,700	..	800	800
Total ..	11,52,600	10,236	30,000	56,700	68,667	2,000	70,667

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A.—An amount of Rs.37,956 was provided through Supplementary Demand towards the end of 1954 for adjustment by the Assam Government Press for Printing of District Census Hand books 1951, but the adjustment could not be carried out in the accounts for 1954-55 as it took time

to clear up the Audit points raised regarding the adjustment of the Book Debit bills submitted by the Government Press.

The Supplementary Demand is therefore necessary for making the adjustment during the current year. The amount is required for affecting the book adjustment and involves no additional financial outlay.

D(a).—The State Government acquired a plot of land in New Delhi in 1953 for the purpose of constructing a building thereon for the accommodation of Ministers, officers of the Government and Members of the Legislature who visit New Delhi. As the construction was not complete when the Budget for 1955-56 was prepared, provision for a caretaker to look after the building could not be made in the Budget. A caretaker has now been appointed and sum of Rs.1,988 was advanced from the Contingency Fund to meet the expenditure on account of his pay and allowances.

A sum of Rs.20,000 is required for purchasing a car. In view of the difficulties of transport experienced by Ministers, Deputy Ministers and officers who visit New Delhi on official duty, it is considered necessary to maintain a car in the Assam House in New Delhi. The amount was advanced from the Contingency Fund.

In order to cope with the increased volume of work in connection with the maintenance of the Assam House in Calcutta which has been recently purchased, one Lower Division Assistant had to be engaged in the office of the Trade Adviser in Calcutta. An amount of Rs.380 is required for meeting the expenditure on account of his pay and allowance.

E.—The amount represents the loss in connection with the issue of Sali and Ahu paddy at reduced rates to the flood affected people of the District of Kamrup during 1948-49, which is to be written off. The amount was provided in the Budget for 1953-54 for adjustment. But the adjustment could not be made by Accountant General then for want of certain information by him. The Supplementary Demand, is therefore, necessary for making the adjustment during the current year.

H(b).—Prior to the formation of the Mizo District Council certain duties connected with the village administration, such as, submission of vital and crop statistics, report of epidemic and cattle disease, report of unnatural death and serious crimes, etc., were performed by the Village writers under the administrative control of the Deputy Commissioner.

These village writers were encouraged by giving suitable rewards and supplied with necessary stationery by the Deputy Commissioner for performance of their duties. After the formation of the Mizo District Council, the duties entrusted to the village writers have been transferred to the Village Councils. Following the old procedure the Village Councils are also being supplied with stationery, etc., by the District Council. But due to financial stringency the District Council requested Government for an annual recurring grant of Rs.1,200 to meet such expenditure. Government have agreed to a grant of Rs. 1,200 for the current year only. As there is no provision in the current year's budget, a Supplementary grant is necessary.

J. Miscellaneous—Due to the death of Late Pu Vako, a member of the Mizo District Council on 3rd June, 1955, a bye-election has become necessary. The financial condition of the Council being far from satisfactory, a sum of Rs.800 has been sanctioned by Government for meeting necessary expenditure in connection with the proposed bye-election. The matter being immediate and imperative, the sum has been taken as advance from Contingency Fund Hence the Supplementary Demand.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.70,667 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "57.—Misc.II.—Donation for charitable purpose, etc."

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** I want to speak a few words, Sir.

Sir, in this demand we find in D at page 54, Petty Establishments—Circuit and Sessions Houses—Rs.84,900 and the additional amount needed is Rs.22,368. Then in the explanatory notes at page 55 it is stated under D (a)—"The State Government acquired a plot of land in New Delhi in 1953 for the purpose of constructing a building thereon for the accommodation of Ministers, officers of Government and Members of the Legislature who visit New Delhi. As the construction was not complete when the Budget for 1955-56 was prepared, provision for a caretaker to look after the building could not be made in the Budget. A caretaker has now been appointed and a sum of Rs.1,988 was advanced from the Contingency Fund to meet the expenditure on account of his pay and allowances.

A sum of Rs.20,000 is required for purchasing a

*Speech not corrected.

a car. In view of the difficulties of transport experienced by Ministers, Deputy Ministers and officers who visit Delhi on official duty, it is considered necessary to maintain a car in the Assam House in New Delhi. The amount was advanced from the Contingency Fund.

Then, "In order to cope with the increased volume of work in connection with the maintenance of the Assam House in Calcutta which has been recently purchased, one Lower Division Assistant had to be engaged in the office of the Trade Adviser in Calcutta. An amount of Rs.380 is required for meeting the expenditure on account of his pay and allowance."

Now, Sir, I am not saying that these things are not required because when we build a house it may be necessary to have a caretaker and in a place like Delhi it is also good to have a car to minimise expenditure. Also for the Assam House in Calcutta it may be necessary to appoint a clerk. But my point is that these things should be thought over at the beginning and every time demands should not be brought forward in this manner. In every budget for the last two years we find mention of these houses in New Delhi and Calcutta, and every time we are sanctioning money for them. I consider that all the money needed for these houses, both recurring and non-recurring, should be sought for at a time, so that we may know what amounts, both recurring and non-recurring, we need to spend for these houses. Then, Sir, the people outside may also think that these things are being done behind their view and they may have a different idea of the whole thing. So, my request to Government is that when these things are done a complete picture should be given to the House so that we may assess the necessity of the demand at a time and not piecemeal in this manner.

Secondly, Sir, regarding the car, so long the Ministers and other officers were using taxis or other conveyances and they used to pay for them and in the allowances we give there is provision for car allowance also. Against this Rs.20,000 for the purchase of a car, some amounts for using this car should be realised. My point is that this car should not be given free to anybody; a charge should be levied for use of this car.

Thirdly, about the Assam House in Calcutta, I do not know how far a Lower Division Assistant is necessary, what is the volume of work there. I remember in a previous supplementary budget we sanctioned appointment of somebody and I don't know how far it is justified to appoint another man now. We have got a Trade Adviser's office in Calcutta and I have seen that the work-load there is not so heavy as not to allow them to do this simple work of the Assam House. I, therefore,

do not quite feel the necessity of this Lower Division Assistant. I hope the Minister will consider all these points in actually spending the amount.

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my friend's contention is like this: why could not Government anticipate an expenditure of this nature? Sir, the construction of the Delhi House was undertaken by the Central Public Works Department and it was not known when the house would be completed and made over to us. The necessity for a caretaker arises only after the house is handed over to us. Government cannot and should not appoint any caretaker in anticipation that the house would be completed by a particular date. Suppose, it is not completed by that date, what would happen? We would be required to incur this expenditure unnecessarily. Sir, the house was constructed by the Central Public Works Department, an agency over which we have no control, at a distance of about 2,000 miles from here and the Central Public Works Department could not tell us when they would be able to complete construction. Under these circumstances, how could we anticipate from what time a caretaker would be needed? As a matter of fact, if my friend's contention is accepted, we should have appointed a caretaker in anticipation, but that would have been infructuous expenditure. How could we appoint a man to take care of a house, the construction of which was not completed? This is the explanation, Sir. The other explanation is regarding the purchase of a car in Delhi about which my friend has no objection but he has said that the expenditure that will be incurred by Government should be realised by Government from officers or Ministers who will use the car. As a matter of fact, every officers and Minister is governed by certain rules of the Government. Here in this case also the same principle is applicable. Expenses will be realised as the rules permit.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: What is the rule?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Use of Government cars are regulated under the rules. Ministers are given a car each but they have got to purchase petrol and mobil, pay driver's salaries and bear expenses of minor repairs. This is governed by rules laid down by Government.

Then, so far as expenditure of Rs.380 for payment as salary to a Lower Division Assistant is concerned, I cannot understand why my friend should complain for this small amount. As a matter of fact, I personally was not inclined to sanction this before I was fully satisfied that this is a necessity. On account of increase of Public Works Department activities

there is increase of work to a great extent and to cope with this work a Lower Division Assistant has been appointed. In fact, the Trade Adviser asked for an Upper Division Assistant but I sanctioned a Lower Division Assistant. It is not unknown to the House that our Calcutta House is visited by many officers and Ministers from Assam. As is the case of the Circuit Houses where Nazir of the Deputy Commissioner's Office is kept in-charge to do various works in connection with comfort, reservation, etc., of the Circuit House, an Assistant for the Assam House in Calcutta, which is like a bigger Circuit House, is felt essentially necessary.

Therefore, I hope, my friend will not grudge this small amount for a petty Assistant and withdraw his remarks.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that an additional sum of Rs.70,667, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—II—Donation for Charitable Purpose, etc."

(The Motion was adopted.)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.24

"57.—Miscellaneous—III—Contributions."

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Minister):

Sir, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.15,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—III—Contributions".

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	2,49,900
II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly in June, 1955 Session.	4,13,153
Additional amount now required	15,000
III.—Sub-heads under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—	

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Grant to Local Bodies for General purposes.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grant to Municipal Boards for general purposes.	71,943	..	8,000	..	15,000	..	15,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(1) In view of the popular demand, Government have agreed to the constitution of a Town Committee at Rangia in the district of Kamrup. For the purpose a preliminary Notification has already been issued and a final Notification is expected to be issued before long. As in other cases it is proposed to sanction in the current financial year, a non-recurring grant of Rs.7,500 to the Town Committee in order to enable it to meet the initial expenditure. This is the minimum amount proposed to be given and based on the estimates prepared by the Local Officers which includes construction of buildings, cost of furniture, etc. All newly established Town Committees received such non-recurring grants from Government to start with. Hence this Supplementary Demand for a similar grant to be given to the new Town Committee at Rangia.

(2) In consideration of the public demand *vis-a-vis* the Government's intention to establish more Town Committee at important places in the State, Government have decided to constitute such a Town Committee at Hojai in the district of Nowgong. To that end, a preliminary Notification has already been issued and a final Notification is expected to be issued before long. Like all other new Town Committees, this Town Committee at Hojai also cannot be brought into operation unless the initial (capital) expenditure is borne by Government in the shape of a non-recurring grant. It is therefore proposed to sanction in the current financial year, a non-recurring grant of Rs. 7,500 to the Town Committee to give it a start. This sum is the minimum amount proposed to be given and based on the estimates drawn up by the Local Officer and which includes cost of furniture, sweeper's quarters, etc. As stated, all newly constituted Town Committees received such a non-recurring grants from Government to start with. Hence, this Supplementary Demand for a similar grant to the new Hojai Town Committee.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion is that an additional amount of Rs.15,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—III—Contributions".

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Sir, I am not moving the Cut Motion.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that an additional amount of Rs.15,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course

of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—III—Contributions".

(The Motion was adopted.)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.25

"57.—Miscellaneous—IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession".

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): Sir, I beg to move that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, that an additional amount of Rs.1,46,700, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession".

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional grant voted by the Assembly in June, 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A.—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration to Government servants.	50,000	2,000	..	..	1,44,200	2,500	1,46,700

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The additional demand represents the expenditure relating to supply of Free Ration to Police personnel during March, 1955 which could not be incurred by the local officers due to receipt of the bills at the fag end of the last month of the financial year. Moreover payments of final bills of some of the dealers could not be made during the financial year as the final scrutiny of the accounts were not completed before 31st March, 1955. Hence, the Demand. This amount was advanced from the Contingency Fund.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion is that an additional amount of Rs.1,46,700, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession".

Now I put the Motion as question. The question is that an additional amount of Rs.1,46,700, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession".

(The Motion was adopted.)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.26

"57—B—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes—Financed from Ordinary Revenue".

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Sir, I beg to move that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam an additional amount of Rs 9,39,800, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "57—B—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes—Financed, from Ordinary Revenue".

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly... .. Rs.
Additional grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session. ...

II.—Additional amount now required 9,39,800

III —Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
4—Capital Expenditure on Bus Service.							
SECTION I							
Gauhati-No w g o n g Service Vehicle,	74,000	..	..	..	74,000	..	74,000

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional grant voted by the Assembly in June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
SECTION II							
Nowgong-Jorhat Service Vehicle,	1,85,000	..	..	..	1,85,000	..	1,85,000
SECTION III							
Pandu-Gauhati-Shilong Service Vehicles.	4,58,800	.	..	..	4,58,800	..	4,58,800
SECTION IV							
Jorhat-Sibsagar-Dibrugarh Service Vehicle.	2,22,000	..	..	..	2,22,000	..	2,22,000
Total ..	9,39,800	..	..	..	9,39,800	..	9,39,800

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The additional amount of Rs.9,39,800 is required to meet last year's liability for purchase of 20 Buses, 8 Trucks and Ambulance Van, as suppliers could not effect supply within the last financial year.

The details of expenditure of the sum of Rs.9,39,800 for 20 Buses, 8 Trucks and one Ambulance Van are given below:—

A. (1) Price of 20 Dodge Buses purchased from M/s. Premier Automobiles—

	Rs.
At Rs.37,000 each	= 7,40,000
Deduct payment made last year	= 60,200
Balance	6,79,800
	Rs. 6,79,800

(2) Price of 8 Trucks purchased from M/s. Premier Automobiles.

	Rs.
At Rs 30,000 (Section III)	2,40,000

(3) One Ambulance Car purchased from M/s. Hindustan Motors, Ltd. (Section III)—

	Rs.
	20,000
	9,39,800

			Rs.
Section I -- 2 Buses at Rs.37,000 each	...	..	74,000
„ II—5 Buses at Rs.37,000 each	...	...	1,85,000
„ IV—6 Buses at Rs.37,000 each	...	...	2,22,000
„ III—8 Trucks	...	...	2,40,000
1 Ambulance	...	..	20,000
7 Buses at Rs.37,000 each	...	...	1,98,800
(—) Rs.60,200.	...	...	

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion is that an additional amount of Rs.9,39,800, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head “57—B—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes—Financed from Ordinary Revenue”.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.4,58,800, under Supplementary Demand No.26, Major head—57—B—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes—Financed from Ordinary Revenue, Minor head—A—Capital Expenditure on Bus Service, Section-III—Pandu-Gauhati Shillong Service Vehicle, at page 58 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.9,39,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, in page 59 of the list of Supplementary Demands, it is stated in item No.3, “One Ambulance Car purchased from M/s. Hindustan Motors, Ltd., is Rs.20,000”. We are thankful to the Government for purchasing an ambulance car and it is really very necessary. My objection is that one ambulance car is not sufficient. From my own experience, I have felt that not only on the Gauhati-Shillong Road but Gauhati to Dhubri and Gauhati to Digboi routes, ambulance cars are essential. I understand that besides this car which is going to be purchased there is another ambulance car in this route, although I have not seen it as yet, but really even two cars are not sufficient for the purpose. I have seen on the Shillong route T. B. patients and other disease-infected people coming to Shillong in the same bus along with other passengers.

although some people may not have any weakness about these things, and they may feel that such contagious disease may not come to them, but Sir, there are other people who are afraid of these diseased persons and in the presence of such contagious disease they get a mental shock. These people needs to be carried in a much better way, so I think we should have not only one or two ambulance cars. Secondly Sir, I do not also like that the fare should be increased for the poor people if they travel in the ambulance car, the charge should be made according to the capacity of the people to pay it. Sir, I would like that there should be different varieties of ambulance cars, but even then the charges should not be so exorbitant as to be outside the capacity of the poor people to pay. Sir, very often ambulance cars are used by people of some respectibility or nobility who can pay the charges without any difficulty, but there are also poor people who would like to go from Shillong to other places or from one place to another in ambulance cars. It is therefore, necessary that we should have more ambulance cars. At least Sir, we should have two ambulance cars in each road for example from Gauhati to Goalpara, Gauhati to Shillong, Gauhati to Nowgong and so on in such a manner that it will be found feasible for rich and poor people to travel in these ambulance cars. With these few words, Sir, I commend my cut motion to the acceptance of the House.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion is that the provision of Rs.4,58,800 under Supplementary Demand No.26, Major head—57—B—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Scheme—Financed from Ordinary Revenue, Minor head—A—Capital Expenditure on Bus Service, Section—III—Pandu-Gauhati-Shillong Service Vehicle, at page 58 of the List of Supplementary Demands, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole Supplementary Demand of Rs.9,39,800, do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Sir, I am grateful to the Leader of the Opposition for bringing this point before the House, by a Cut Motion. Sir, the general principle of this is based on the principle of demand. Sir, the demand is very meagre. At present we have two ambulance vans. One is an old one and the other is a newly purchased one. Sir, regarding the demands of ambulance cars; I shall give the figure below to show that demand for ambulance vans is very limited. In 1949-50—4 trips; in 1950-51—10 trips; in 1951-52—4 trips; in 1952-53—6 trips; in 1953-54—5 trips; in 1954-55—2 trips; and in 1955/56—2 trips. Sir, the maximum demand was in 1950-51—with ten trips. So Sir, it will be seen that from 1949 to 1956 the total demands for ambulance cars was only 33

trips, *i. e.*, in 7 years and the average is only 4 or 5 trips in a year.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: What is the charge ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Rupees 60 for the entire car. In this connection Sir, I would like to inform the House that there is no complaint or objection regarding the charges and even there is no request from any body to reduce the charge. Rule 90 of the Motor Vehicles Act provides that any person if reasonably suspected to be suffering from any contagious or infectious disease may be forcibly removed by the Conductor of the Bus when travelling by a Bus.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: But when it is known that a particular man is suffering from such disease he is not removed from the car.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Rule is strictly observed Sir. But there is no complaint. If this is brought to the notice of the Conductor he will surely remove such a passenger suffering from contagious disease from the car or bus. However, Sir, if there is any genuine demand, we shall try to increase the ambulance cars.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: That there is no demand is purely due to high charges.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Sir, I have already stated that there is no complaint regarding inadequacy of such vans or the charges. If there would be any such complaint, surely, State Transport will look into the matter. But there is no complaint whatsoever in this respect, at the same time Sir, the recurring cost is very high, we are maintaining drivers and handymen, and even if the vehicle even when lying idle, monthly or quarterly servicing is necessary. Sir, we are running the ambulance cars at a very great loss. I think, Sir, for the present it is not necessary to keep more ambulance cars, but if I find that there is a real necessity, certainly I shall see to it.

Sir, I hope my Friend will now withdraw his Cut Motion, and accept the Supplementary Demand.

(The Cut Motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.)

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam an additional grant of Rs.9,39,800, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head—"57—B—Capital Outlay on Road Transport Schemes—Financed from Ordinary Revenue."

(The Motion was adopted.)

Supplementary Demand No.27 (63—B.—Community Development Projects)

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional grant of Rs.3,71,300, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—"63—B.—Community Development Projects":

Sir, why the amount is necessary and why it could not be included in the budget has been explained in the Explanatory Notes.

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ... 1,12,67,500

II.—Additional grant voted by the Assembly during June, 1955 Session, ...

Additional amount now required ... 3,71,300

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand accounted for—

Demand for 1955-56							
Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during June, 1955 Session		Additional amount new required		
	Sixth General Schedule		Sixth General Schedule		Sixth General Schedule		Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
II. Community Projects :—							
A. Projects Head- quarters.	18,56,760	8,45,640	..	..	..	1,42,800	1,42,800
H. Agriculture and A. H. Extension.	7,18,041	2,36,924	..	..	..	45,000	45,000
C. Irrigation ..	8,84,450	3,24,350	..	..	..	24,000	24,000
D. Reclamation ..	9,15,400	2,25,900	..	..	..	12,000	12,000
E. Health and Rural Sani- tation.	11,90,865	2,93,570	..	..	..	36,000	36,000
F. Education ..	8,79,780	1,61,210	..	..	..	18,000	18,000
G. Social Edu- cation.	2,55,607	94,900	..	..	..	36,000	36,000
H. Communica- tion.	11,62,004	3,22,600	..	..	..	34,500	34,500

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Supplementary grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session		Additional Amount now required		Total
	Sixth General	Sixth Schedule	Sixth General	Sixth Schedule	Sixth General	Sixth Schedule	
(I)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. (I) Rural Arts, Crafts and industries.	5,46,197	1,39,280	..	..	..	15,000	15,000
(2) Development of cottage and small scale In- dustries (Pilot Project) in Darrang Com- munity Project.	..	..	..	..	8,000	..	8,000
	81,09,004	26,44,574	..	..	8,000	3,63,300	8,71,300

EXPLANATORY NOTES

At the instance of the Community Projects Administration (Planning Commission) New Delhi, the State Government have decided to take up three National Extension Service Blocks in the district of Naga Hills for a period of three years with effect from 2nd October, 1955. As India's decision was received only recently, no provision for this could be made in the current year's budget and the amount of Rs.3,63,300 was taken as advance from the Contingency Fund.

The balance amount of Rs.8,000 is for expenditure on the Pilot Project for Development of Cottage and Small Scale Industries set up in the Darrang Community Project at the instance of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Government of India, New Delhi. As India's decision was received only recently, no provision for this could be made in the current year's budget and the amount was taken as advance from the Contingency Fund. Hence the demand to regularise the advance. The entire expenditure on staff proposed will be ultimately debitable to the aforesaid Ministry.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion is that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, an additional grant of Rs.3,71,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray

certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“63—B—Community Development Projects”.

(After a pause)

The question is that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, an additional grant of Rs.3,71,300, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“63—B—Community Development Projects”.

(The Motion was adopted)

Supplementary Demand No.28

“63-B.—Community Development Project, National Extension Service and Local Development Works”

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.31,32,596 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head “63-B.—Community Development Project, National Extension Service and Local Development Works”.

Sir, the reasons for this demand has been fully explained in the explanatory notes.

Rs.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	...
Additional grant voted by the Assembly during the year.	...	...	...
II.—Additional amount now required	...	...	31,32,596

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary
Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-heads	Grant originally voted by the Assem- bly		Additional Grant voted by the Assembly during June, 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
C. Local Development Works—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Supervision—							
Establishment ..	..	..	..	..	46,050	25,653	71,703
Grant-in-aid ..	..	..	..	..	28,297	..	28,297
2. Water Supply—							
Grant-in-aid ..	..	..	..	..	13,62,468	6,47,877	20,10,345
3. Improvement of Agriculture—	..	..					
Grant-in-aid ..	..	..	..	..	1,400	1,500	2,900
4. Rural sanitation—							
Grant-in-aid		..	..	..	4,437	7,861	12,298
5. (a) Roads and build- ing including small bridges and culverts, etc.—							
Grant-in-aid ..	..	..	..	..	6,92,164	3,12,316	10,04,480
5. (b) Students camps in Community Projects.	..	..	..	..	2,573	..	2,573
Total	..	..	..	..	21,37,389	9,95,207	31,32,596

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Items 1—5(a) A sum of Rs.29 lakhs has been provided in the current year's budget for the implementation of Local Development Works Schemes (including Rural Water Supply) i.e., Central Government's share of Rs.15 lakhs and State Government's share of Rs.14 lakhs. Besides the Central Government's share of Rs.15 lakhs, the Planning Commission has committed to make an additional grant-in-aid of Rs.18,000 for certain schemes approved by them in 1953-54 for assistance to certain institution in the State. This amount could not be utilised last year and therefore the amount was provided in the current year's budget by a Supplementary Demand in the last June Session of the Assembly. There are also certain other approved Schemes which could not be completed last year and provision for these Schemes to the extent of Rs.2,06,046 is necessary this year.

Government of India have sanctioned a sum of Rs.8,550 to Shrimanta Sankar Mission being 50 per cent of the cost of construction of a Hospital and Dispensary at Ouguri in the Mikir Hills. The amount will be a specific grant to the State Government by India.

The classification of expenditure has since been changed by the Government of India. As such provision for Local Development Works (including Rural Water Supply) is necessary to be made under the new head "63-B—Community Development Project, National Extension Service and Local Development Works". The Supplementary Demand involves no additional expenditure except Rs.2,06,046 mentioned above. The provision under "42-Co-operation—II—Rural Development for the purpose will be surrendered.

5.(b) As instructed by the Government of India a sum of Rs.2,573 is proposed to be sanctioned for students camp in Community Projects out of total grant of Rs.29 lakhs.

The above explain the total demand of Rs.31,32,596. The provision made by this Supplementary Demand will be treated as a new grant in the current year's Budget namely grant No.43A.—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.31,32,596 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges, which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "63-B.—Community Development Project, National Extension Service and Local Development Works".

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted.)

Supplementary Demand No.29

"72—Capital Outlay on Industrial Department"

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that an additional amount of Rs.1,00,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956 for the Administration of the head "72.—Capital Outlay on Industrial Department".

Sir, reasons for this demand are given in the explanatory notes.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	...	...	5,25,000
Additional grant voted by the Assembly during June, 1955 Session.	...	...	2,07,113
II.—Additional amount now required	...	...	1,00,000

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional grant voted by the Assembly during June, 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES (FIVE-YEAR PLAN)	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
C.—Development of Co-Operative—							
(a) Purchase of shares by Government of the Assam Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank Ltd.	..	..	..	..	1,00,000	..	1,00,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

In order to implement the Schemes for Co-operative Credit Rehabilitation in the State, it has been decided to bring 50 per cent of the indebted rural population under Co-operative credit Societies within a period of ten years. The type of societies contemplated under the Scheme are credit Societies such as Marketing Societies, Weaving Societies, Central Banks, Central Apex Bank, Land Mortgage Bank, etc.

Immediately Government have decided to purchase shares to the extent of Rs.1,00,000 of the Pilot Central Land Mortgage Bank for the Cachar and the Darrang Districts. The Supplementary Demand is required for this purpose so that the Scheme may start functioning in this year.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.1,00,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "72.—Capital Outlay on Industrial Department".

There is no Cut Motion.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted.)

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND No.30.

"81—A-Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes"

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.14,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "81—A—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes".

Sir, the explanatory notes explain the need of the demand.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly	1,03,78,300
Additional grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session.	17,34,110
II.—Additional amount now required	14,000

III.—Sub-head under with the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for—

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required			
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	Total	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Thermo Electric Scheme— Electricity Section—B— Establishment — Common Establishment for Thermo Electricity Schemes—Con- tingencies.	..	..	6,400	..	14,000	..	14,000	
Total	..	..	6,400	..	14,000	..	14,000	

EXPLANATORY NOTES

It was only in May, 1955 that the Government decided to undertake electrification of 13 small towns and villages departmentally. To implement the schemes expeditiously it is essential that a Jeep Station Wagon be placed at the disposal of the Electricity Department. Hence the Demand. The amount was advanced from the Contingency Fund.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.14,000, be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956, for the administration of the head "81—A—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes".

There is no Cut Motion.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted).

Supplementary Demand No.31
“85—A.—Capital Outlay on State Schemes of Government Trading”

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.6,78,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head “85—A.—Capital Outlay on State Schemes of Government Trading”. Sir, in the explanatory notes it has been clearly explained the necessity of the demand.

	Rs.
I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly...	28,69,800
Additional grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session.	
II.—Additional amount now required ...	6,78,200
III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for:	

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.

A.—Grain Storage Scheme

SECTION II

Expenditure on Directorate Establishment and purchase of rice and paddy, etc.	19,66,100	46,600	..	..	6,78,200	..	6,78,200
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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This represents the additional expenditure which is expected to be involved in the process of making over of the stock of foodgrains to Government of India as well as export to Tibet as per the recent Government decision in this matter. While framing the budget these expenditures could not be foreseen as there was no contemplation to make over the existing

stock to Government of India as well as to export a portion of stock to Tibet.

Hence the additional Demand.

This amount was advanced from the Contingency Fund.

The details of expenditure are as follows:—

					Rs.
(a) Pay of Officers:—					
4 Inspectors	..	...	...	..	9,600
(b) Pay of Establishment:—					
(i) Field staff:—					
4 Sub-Inspectors	..	...	...	..	6,700
(ii) Godown staff:—					
50 godown chowkidars					
9 Scalemen	...	...			
43 Godown keepers		...		..	60,000
1 Store keeper	...	..			
1 Head store-keeper	...				
(iii) Ministerial staff:—					
21 Orderlies	..	...			
2 Peons	...	...		...	7,200
1 Chowkidars	...	...			
(c) Allowances and Honoraria...	...	...	...	...	47,700
(d) Contingencies:—					
(i) Purchase of rice and paddy ..					
(ii) Handling charge	...	...			
(iii) Transport charge	...	..		..	5,47,000
(iv) Godown rent	...	...			
(v) Miscellaneous godown contingencies.					

The DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.6,78,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "85—A.—Capital Outlay on the State Schemes of Government Trading".

There is no Cut Motion.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted).

Supplementary Demand No.32

"Loans and Advances, etc."

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that an additional amount of Rs.10,90,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc."

Sir, the reason for the demand has been explained in the explanatory notes.

I.—Grant originally voted by the Assembly ...	Rs.	11,87,00,200
Additional grant voted by the Assembly ...	...	4,63,000
during June 1955 Session.		

II.—Additional amount now required 10,90,000

III.—Sub-head under which the Supplementary Demand will be accounted for:—

Minor and Sub-head	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional Grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		Total
	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	General	Sixth Schedule	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
II.—Loans and Advances by the State Government—B.—Loans to Municipalities, Port, Funds, etc.—							
Advances to cultivators..	15,25,000	7,60,162	..	..	5,00,000	..	5,00,000
Miscellaneous Loans and Advances.	1,22,20,000	..	4,53,000	..	5,00,000	..	5,00,000

	Grant originally voted by the Assembly		Additional Grant voted by the Assembly during June 1955 Session		Additional amount now required		
Minor and sub-head	General Sixth Schedule		General Sixth Schedule		General Sixth Schedule		Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
C.—Advance to Govern- ment servants—							
Advances for purchase of 1,50,000 Motor cars.	..	..	..	..	50,000	..	50,000
Advances for the purchase of conveyances.	70,000	..	..	..	40,000	..	40,000
Total	1,39,65,000	7,60,162	4,53,000	..	10,90,000	..	10,90,000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The amount under the Sub-head "Advances to cultivators" (Advances in cases of distress) is required for issuing loans to the people affected by flood and other natural calamities in the shape of seed loan, subsistence loans, etc.

2. The amount under the Sub-head "Miscellaneous Loans and Advances" is required for issuing rehabilitation loan to the people affected by floods and erosion in connection with their rehabilitation on alternative sites.

3. The existing provision of Rs.1,50,000 for granting advances to Government servants for purchase of Motor cars has almost been exhausted. The additional amount of Rs.50,000 is required to meet the demands during the remaining months of the current financial year.

4. The existing provision of Rs.70,000 for granting advances for purchase of other conveyances has already been exhausted. The additional amount of Rs.40,000 is required for giving more bicycle advances to the incumbents of the Community Project Department to enable them to supervise the various works in Community (Development) Project Areas.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that an additional amount of Rs.10,90,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "Loans and Advances, etc".

There is no Cut Motion.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted).

Private Members' Resolutions

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to add something. The original Resolution after accepting the amendment of Shri Mohi Kanta Das will be like this—"this Assembly do recommend to the Government of Assam to move the Central Government for construction of a Railway line from Bongaigaon to Pandu *via* Goalpara along the south bank of river Brahmaputra".

Sir, the Mover of this Resolution referred to the resolution passed by the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee at Nowgong. I think he is in agreement with that resolution. The resolution adopted by the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee runs as follows:—

"The Assam Pradesh Congress Committee recommends that priority be given in the Second Five-Year Plan for construction of a Railway line from Bongaigaon *via* Jogighopa and Goalpara, with a link to Pandughat for exploiting the natural resources in this undeveloped region and to serve as an additional route to Assam and requests the State and Union Governments to take early steps for the same."

Sir, if the intention of the Mover of this Resolution is the same as that of the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee resolution then, Sir, there is no mention of the Garo Hills in this Resolution. So I would like to suggest that after the words "from Bongaigaon to Pandu *via* Goalpara" the words "the Siju area of the Garo Hills" should be added.

or

at the end of the words "Goalpara along south bank of river Brahmaputra" the words "connecting Siju area of the Garo Hills" should be added.

Shri ANANDA CHANDRA BEZBARUA: Sir, by way of clarification, yesterday one amendment was moved by Shri Mohi Kanta Das. What will be the fate of that Amendment?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has agreed to that amendment moved by Shri Mohi Kanta Das.

So, amended portion of the Resolution would be like this—"this Assembly do recommend to the Government of Assam to move the Central Government for construction of a Railway line from Bongaigaon to Pandu *via* Goalpara along south bank of river Brahmaputra connecting Siju area of Garo Hills."

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I whole-heartedly support this Resolution.

This line is necessary for the interest of the State as a whole as well as for the interest of India.

Except the Dibrugarh Subdivision, no other district in Assam can be compared to the Garo Hills with regard to its mineral and other resources. The report of the then Director of the Geological Department of the Government of India puts the deposit of coal at Siju area at so large a quantity as to last for 200 years at a raising rate of 1 million ton a year and compares the seam with the best in America. First class lime stone and clay for cement are also available in immense quantities nearabout, and these three—coal, limestone and clay—are the materials necessary for manufacture of cement. A private company took a license for manufacture of cement and the condition was that within two years of the establishment of a rail-head in that area, they would manufacture cement. This arrangement fell through for want of a railway line. But then Government of India promised to operate the coal field themselves and construct a railway line up to that area. As a matter of fact, for the last 8/9 years survey is being conducted for construction of a railway line from Pandu *via* Dudhnoi to Barengiri near the Siju coalfield and we hear that engineering survey has now been completed. What now we want is construction of a line from Dudhnoi to Goalpara, a distance of about 20/22 miles and from Jogighopa on the other bank of the Brahmaputra to Bongaigaon, a distance of 20 miles. In both these tracts cost of construction will be very low as the line will pass over level ground without any big river. As a matter of fact, the Military Authorities began construction of a railroad from Bongaigaon to Jogighopa. Earth-work for about 3/4 miles from Bongaigaon was completed as also in different parts along the line by different contractors. But then the war came to an end and all works were stopped.

These Military Engineers were experienced men from America and after studying the topography of the country they selected this line for running military operations on a long term basis. We should utilise their experience and profit by it.

Proper exploitation of Garo Hills will not only benefit the Garo people but will considerably augment the resources of the State. Siju coalfield lie at the eastern extremity of the Garo Hills and the line from Pandu to these coalfields will just touch the district at its eastern end. It will be difficult, therefore, to tap the other resources of this district. But

if the line is extended from Dudhnai to Goalpara, it will pass through business centres, where raw materials from Garo Hills are usually marketed.

Garo Hills grow finest of timbers, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakh maunds of cotton annually, thousands of maunds of chillies and ginger. Its bamboo resources are sufficient to run more than one paper mills and if these Hills are properly surveyed, other mineral resources may be found out. But for want of communication the growers are not getting proper price for their crops. I give the instance. From Rupsi aerodrome Garo Hills ginger is flown to Calcutta where it sells at 35/40 rupees per maund. Freight from Garo Hills to Rupsi is Rs.10 and from Rupsi to Calcutta Rs.10 per maund. The price which the growers get is between Rs.8 to Rs.10 per maund. If the goods could be delivered to a railhead nearabout, they would have got at least Rs.25 per maund. Commercially also, this line will be sound. Figures were collected and we were informed that these figures proved satisfactory. Assam cannot consume the entire coal, timber, cotton and other raw materials of the area. They will have to be sent to other parts of India from where some of them will be exported to foreign countries as is done now.

For this purpose this route will be shorter by about 200 miles than the route *via* Pandu-Amingaon. The freight will be less and these commodities will be able to stand competition.

I said that this line *via* Bongaigaon and Goalpara will benefit the whole of Assam. It is in this way. There are frequent breaches in the line between Bongaigaon and Amingaon. I give below instances of breaches of 1951 to 1955 from a statement published by Government :—

1951 :—

Between Stations	(1) Rangia-Ghogra- para.	13th July, 1951.
" "	(2) " "	15th July, 1951.
" "	(3) " "	18th September, 1951.

1952 :—

Between Stations	(4) Bijni-Chaparakata	11th July, 1952.
" "	(5) Kaithalkuchi-Tihu	15th " "
" "	(6) Rangia-Baihata	13th " "
" "	(7) Rangia-Ghograpara	15th " "

1953 :—

Between Stations	(8) Nalbari and Ghograpara.	13th September, 1953.
" "	(9) Ghograpara-Rangiya.	13th September, 1953.

1954 :—

Between Stations	(10) Nalbari-Ghograpara	1st July, 1954.
" "	(11) Ghograpara-Rangiya	1st " "
" "	(12) Rangiya-Ghograpara	26th " "
" "	(13) Ghograpara-Nalbari	25th " "
" "	(14) Sorupeta-Pathshala	26th " "
" "	(15) Bijni-Chaparkata	27th " "
" "	(16) Rangiya-Ghograpara.	23rd August, 1954.
" "	(17) Ghograpara-Nalbari	23rd " "
" "	(18) Pathshala-Sorupeta	23rd " "
" "	(19) Barpeta Road-Sorupeta.	24th " "
" "	(20) Patildaha-Bijni	23rd " "
" "	(21) Bijni-Chaparkata	23rd " "

1955 :—

Between Stations	(22) Bijni-Chaparkata	25th July, 1955.
" "	(23) Pathshala-Sorupeta	27th " "

Due to these breaches, running of train is often suspended and the passenger traffic is diverted from Bongaigaon *via* Goalpara to Gauhati. This was the case this year. Last year and also occasionally in previous years. Though the Transport Department this year did its utmost to carry the passengers, the number of buses were not enough to cope with the huge traffic and the ferry could not cross them to the other side. The result was that passengers got stranded at Bongaigaon, Jogighopa and Goalpara and having no accommodation, they had to undergo untold hardship in the rains. The public arranged relief measures in these three places. Railway Department also tried its utmost to cope with the situation. It opened a temporary office at Goalpara and paid the entire fare from Bongaigaon to Gauhati *via* Goalpara which was much higher than the railway fare. This is with regard to passengers; goods traffic was completely stopped. Though there was an arrangement for carriage of goods from Calcutta to Assam *via* Pakistan, the arrangement did not work for these breaches. If the line we propose is constructed, these troubles will vanish and the State as a whole will be benefited.

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): On the point of information, Sir, is it the intention of the hon. Member to abandon the line?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister): I am speaking, please wait, I will come to it. Some people apprehended that if this line is constructed, it will be a stable line and ultimately the Railway authority will treat it as the main line and abandon the portion between Bongaigaon and Amingaon. There is no reason for such an apprehension. It is not our point that the line between Bongaigaon and Amingaon should be taken away and put here. There is no meaning in developing an area at the cost of another. That will not be to the country's interest. Rather, we want that not only the Bongaigaon-Amingaon section should be retained, it should be properly maintained and the line which goes from Rangiya towards East should be extended upto North Lakhimpur.

By the end of the 2nd Five Year Plan, the population of Assam will rise to one crore and Assam, as a matter of right, will be entitled to one thousand miles of railway line as I understand from the highest authority that it is the ratio fixed by the Planning Commission that for each crore of people, there should be one thousand miles of railway line. I do not know the present railway mileage in Assam. But in view of the peculiar geographical position of this border State, the State Government should put pressure upon the Railway authority to exceed this one thousand miles ratio.

With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution.

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH NATH: মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি মোব বন্ধু বেজবৰুৱা ডাঙৰীয়াই যিটো প্ৰস্তাৱ সদনত দাঙি ধৰিছে মই তাক সন্মান্তৰূপে সমৰ্থন কৰিছো। এইটো আমাৰ সমগ্ৰ অসমবাসীৰেই বৰ লাগতীয়াল প্ৰস্তাৱ আৰু বৰ গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ। আজি ভাৰত আৰু অসমৰ মাজত যাতায়াতৰ একমাত্ৰ পথ হ'ল এইটো। এই সৰ্বপ্ৰধান বেলপথটোৰ একখণ্ড হ'ল বঙাইগাওঁৰ পৰা আমিনগাঁওলৈ। আমি দেখিছো যে প্ৰায় প্ৰতি বছৰে এই বেলপথখণ্ড আই নদী, মানাহ নদী, পাগলদিয়া আদিয়ে আজি কেইবা বছৰৰ পৰা বছৰ ২১৩ মাহ নষ্ট কৰি বন্ধ কৰি থয়। দৰ্শক ভাৱিলে এইটো এটা ডাঙৰ পৰিস্থিতি। ভাৰতৰ আন আন ৰাজ্যত এনে এটা গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ বেলপথ ২১৩ মাহ বন্ধ হৈ থাকিব নোৱাৰে। আৰু যদি থাকিল হেঁতেন তেন্তে সেই প্ৰদেশৰ মানুহে কেন্দ্ৰীয় গভৰ্ণমেণ্টক ৰক্ষাই নিদিলে হেঁতেন। কিন্তু বৰ দুখৰ বিষয় যে এনে এটা গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ বেলপথ ২১৩ মাহ বছৰি বন্ধ হৈ থকা স্বত্বেও অসমৰ বাইজে বা চৰকাৰে কেন্দ্ৰীয় গভৰ্ণমেণ্টৰ ওচৰত কোনো দাবী আজিলৈ উত্থাপন কৰা নাই। সেই কাৰণে আজিৰ প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থোপযোগী আৰু বৰ গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ প্ৰস্তাৱ। ইয়াত কোৱা হৈছে যে বৰ্তমান যিটো বেলপথ আছে সেইটোৰে এটা শাখা বঙাইগাওঁৰ পৰা যোগাযোগ আৰু গোৱালপাৰাৰে গাবো হীল সিজু হৈ পাওলৈ আহিব; আৰু বৰ্তমানৰ বঙাইগাওঁৰ পৰা আমিনগাঁওলৈ থকা বেলপথটো এই নদীবিলাকৰ উপদ্রুত কেতিয়াবা কেতিয়াবা বন্ধ হয় তেতিয়া হ'লেও মানুহৰ অহাযোৱাত কোনো সময়তে বাধা নহ'ব।

আজি কেইবছৰমানৰ পৰা দেখা গৈছে যে হাজাৰ হাজাৰ মানুহে বেলপথটো বন্ধ থকাত বঙাইগাওঁৰ পৰা যোগাযোগৰে গোৱালপাৰালৈ যাবলগীয়া হৈছে; আৰু ৰাতিত Relief Camp কৰিব লগীয়া হৈছে। এনে কৰাত যাত্ৰী সকলৰ দুখ-দুৰ্গতিৰ

গীমা নোহোৱা হৈছে। বিশেষকৈ তাৰ ফলত বাহিৰৰ পৰা অসমলৈ যিবিলাক সামগ্ৰী আহিব লগীয়া আছিল সিও বন্ধ হৈ থাকে। ইয়াৰ ফলত আমাৰ অসমবাসীৰ সমূহীয়া ক্ষতি হৈছে।

এনে অৱস্থাত এই সদনত যি প্ৰস্তাৱটো দাঙি ধৰিছে সি অতি লাগতীয়াল, আৰু সমগ্ৰ অসমৰ কাৰণে দৰ্কাৰী।

মাননীয় উপমন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে এই প্ৰস্তাৱৰ সমখনত বিতংকৈ সুন্দৰ ভাবে বুজাই দিছে। ইয়াৰ লগতে ময়ো কওঁ, যে এই বেলপথে গাঁৱো পাহাৰক সংযোগ কৰিব। গাঁৱো পাহাৰৰ আৰ্থিক উন্নতিৰ কাৰণেও এই বেলপথটো অপৰিহাৰ্য্য। কিয়নো, গাঁৱো পাহাৰৰ যিবিলাক উৎপাদন দ্ৰব্য সেইবিলাক পৰিবহনৰ অভাৱত কিনা বেচা নহয়। সেই বস্তুবিলাক আমাৰ দৰ্কাৰী হলেও আমি নাপাওঁ। তাতে আধামূল্যত বিক্ৰি হয় বা নষ্ট হয়। গতিকে এই বেল পথটো হলে সকলোৰে উপকাৰ হব। তাৰ পিচত গাঁৱো পাহাৰত আলু, আদা, লাহা, জুট, কপাহ, আনাবস, বাহ, কাঠ বেচি পৰিমাণে থকাৰ বাহিৰেও সিমেন্ট, কেৰাচিন, কয়লা, আদি নানা খনিজ সম্পদ আছে। এইবিলাক যদি আমি সৰববাহ কৰিব পাৰোঁ তেন্তে গাঁৱোপাহাৰৰ তথা অসমৰ Economic Development তো যথেষ্ট সহায় কৰিব। সেইফালৰ পৰাও এই বেলপথ বিশেষ দৰ্কাৰী।

আজি আমাৰ দেশ সমৃদ্ধিশালী কৰিবৰ উদ্দেশ্যে ২২ পঞ্চ বাৰ্ষিক পৰিকল্পনাত কোটি কোটি টকা ধৰিছোঁ মই ভাবো পৰিকল্পনা কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিবলৈ হলে বাহিৰৰ পৰা বিভিন্ন প্ৰকাৰৰ বস্তু আনিব লাগিব। কিন্তু বেল পথৰ অসুবিধাৰ কাৰণে বাহিৰৰ পৰা বস্তুবোৰ ঠিকমতে আনিব পৰা হোৱা নাই। এনেকুৱা অৱস্থাত আমাৰ পৰিকল্পনাৰ আঁচনীবোৰ ঠিকমতে কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিব নোৱাৰিম। আমি দেখিছোঁ আমাৰ বেল পথেদি যিবিলাক বস্তু আহে সেই বোৰ বাৰিষা সময়ত বন্ধ হৈ থাকিব লগিয়া হয়। মই কওঁ ভাৰতৰ আন আন প্ৰদেশতকৈ অসমত বেল লাইনৰ প্ৰয়োজন বেচি কাৰণ আমি সৰহ ভাগ বস্তুয়েই দিল্লী বা কলিকাতা বা বোম্বাইৰ পৰা আনিব লাগে। যদি সোনকালে বেলওয়ে লাইনৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা নহয় তেনে আমাৰ পৰিকল্পনা, পৰিকল্পনাতেই থাকিব আঁচনীতে ব্যৰ্থ হববহে আশঙ্কা। এই বিষয়ে চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰি ৰাখিলো। দিল্লী আৰু মাদ্ৰাজৰ পৰা অহা কেজনমান বন্ধুয়ে কৈছিল যে অসমখন বৰ ধুনীয়া কিন্তু আমি ইয়াৰ পৰা সোনকালে ওলাব পাৰিলেই বন্ধা পাওঁ। মই শুধিলো যদি ঠাইখন ধুনীয়াই তেনেহলে ইয়াৰ পৰা সোনকালে ওলাব পাৰিলেই বন্ধা পোৱাৰ কাৰণ? তেখেত সকলে কলে যে ইয়াত বস্ত্ৰৰ দাম বৰ বেচি।

বেল পৰিবহনৰ এনেকুৱা দুৰবস্থাৰ কাৰণে অসমৰ মানুহে সদায় বিভিন্ন প্ৰকাৰৰ বস্তু কিনোতে বেশী দাম দিবলগিয়াত পৰিছে তাৰ ফলত অসমৰ পৰা লাখ লাখ টকা বাহিৰলৈ যাব ধৰিছে। বেল পথটো অতি সোনকালে বান্ধি দিব পাৰিলে অসমৰ কাৰণে মঙ্গল। গতিকে বেল পথৰ ব্যৱস্থাটো আমাৰ অতি আৱশ্যকীয়।

Defence ৰ ফালৰ পৰাও সকলো বস্ত্ৰৰ পৰিবাহন এই বেল পথেদিয়েই কৰিব লগিয়া হয়। যোৱা যুদ্ধৰ সময়ত সকলোৱে দেখিছে গুলি বাকদ আদি সকলো সৰঞ্জাম বৰ্ত্তমান থকা বেল লাইনেদিয়ে আহিব লগিয়া হৈছিল। বিশেষকৈ বজাইগাওঁ, যোগীঘোপা গোৱালপাৰাই যুদ্ধৰ বহুতো সামগ্ৰী আৰু কনভয় সেই পিনেদি আনিব লগা হৈছিল, অকল বেল লাইনেদিয়ে সকলো বস্তু নিব পৰা নাছিল। সেইসময়ত যোগীঘোপা পঞ্চবত্ৰলৈ বিশেষ ভাবে ব্ৰহ্মপুত্ৰ নৈত জাহাজৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰি ২৪ ঘণ্টাই মালামাল পাব কৰি পঠিয়াব লগা হৈছিল। সেই ফালৰ পৰা চালেও আমাৰ

স্ববিধাজনক বেলপথ এটাৰ বিশেষ প্ৰয়োজন। কাৰণ অসম এখন Frontier Province সেই কাৰণে আন আন ৰাজ্যত যিমান বেল লাইন আছে তাতকৈ অসমত বেচি বেল লাইনৰ প্ৰয়োজন। কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে চাব লাগে। এই বিষয়টোৰ ওকতলৈ চাই প্ৰাদেশিক কংগ্ৰেছ কমিটিয়ে যোৱা নগাওঁ অধিবেশনত এটা প্ৰস্তাব লৈছিল যে বজ্জাইগাওঁ-যোগীঘোপা, গোয়ালপাৰা ভায়া গাৰোহিলতৈ পাণ্ডুলৈ বেললাইনটো পাতি সোনকালে দিব লাগে। আমাৰ গোয়ালপাৰা জিলা কংগ্ৰেছৰ পৰা এটা সজাতীদল দিল্লীলৈ গৈছিলো দিল্লীত আমাৰ অসমৰ M. P. বিশেষকৈ শ্ৰীদেৱকান্ত বৰুৱা, শ্ৰীত্ৰিপাঠিকী, শ্ৰীফকৰুদ্দিন চাহাব আৰু আমজাদ আলী চাহাবকে আদি কৰি সকলোৱে আমাক সহায় কৰে। তেখেত সকলৰ যত্নত আমি সকলোৱে এই বিষয়ে বেলঙৰে মন্ত্ৰী শাস্ত্ৰীজীৰ লগত সাক্ষাত কৰি আলোচনা কৰিছিলো। তেখেতক সকলো কথা বুজাই কোৱাত তেখেতে বেলঙৰে লাইন সম্বন্ধে বিশেষ সহানুভূতিশীল বুলি প্ৰকাশ কৰে, আৰু তেখেতে ইখিনিও কয় যে, মই আসামলৈ যাওঁতে নিজে বজ্জাইগাওঁ, যোগীঘোপা, গাৰোহীল, গোয়ালপাৰালৈ গৈছো, এই বিষয়ে বিশেষ ভাবে চিন্তা কৰিছোঁ। তাৰ পাছত বোৰ্ডৰ চেয়াৰমেন মিঃ পাণ্ডেজীৰ লগত সাক্ষাত কৰি এই বিষয়ে কথা বতৰা হোৱাত তেখেতেও আমাক আশ্বাস দিছিল আৰু নবেম্বৰত বজ্জাইগাওঁলৈ আহিব বুলি আমাক কয়। এই বিলাকৰ পৰা মই কব পাৰো যে কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি ভালদৰেই আকৰ্ষণ কৰা হৈছে। মোৰ বিশ্বাস আমাৰ চৰকাৰৰ তৰফৰ পৰা যদি আৰু জোৰদি কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰক নিবেদন কৰা হয় তেনেহলে এই লাইনটো অতি সোনকালে হব পাৰে। আৰু তাৰ দ্বাৰা সমগ্ৰ অসম তথা ভাৰতৰ উপকাৰ সাধন হব সেই কাৰণে মই এই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সৰ্বসন্মতিকৰণে সমৰ্থন কৰিছোঁ।

Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Resolution as in the amended form has become fully comprehensive. The Resolution aims at two objectives; first to ensure uninterrupted railway communication all the year round with the rest of India and secondly to develop certain undeveloped areas of Assam where there are vast mineral resources which have hitherto remained untapped. Sir, our main difficulties as experienced on this account have been explained by Mr. Das who gave a very comprehensive statement to which the only little that I want to add is that as a result of this interruption in traffic, our economic condition is getting worse every year. While we get much less for our produce, we pay more for consumer goods that have to be imported from outside. These two factors seriously affect our economy. Already our national income has proved to be much lower than that of the rest of India. Our State is predominantly agricultural country and we have to send outside our agricultural produce and on the other hand we have to depend on other States for consumer goods. Consumer goods, as I have said, cost us much more due to higher cost of transport while we get much from our agricultural produce. These two factors account for our unhappy economic condition. Compared to other States, Assam is far more backward in the matter of economic development. Therefore, Sir, the question of expansion of railway communication should be treated on the basis of the highest priority.

Sir, Mr. Das has enumerated the number of breaches that had occurred in the railway line during the years from 1951 to 1955 at different places and also between Bongaigaon and Amingaon. My experience in the last rainy season, Sir, is that while I was once coming from Dhubri to Gauhati I had to come to Bongaigaon by train, then to Jogighopa by State bus and after crossing the Brahmaputra, I came to Gauhati again by the State bus and during this journey I witnessed a large number of railway passengers being stranded on the way exposed to severe hardship. The breach between Chaprakata and Bijni was about 300 feet in length last year and it is about 3,000 feet this year. This breach has been caused by the river Ai. After several months this breach could be repaired. It is not known what will be the fate of the bridge constructed this year, during the next rainy season. The railway has put up a temporary bridge at present and they do not know even whether this will stand or not next year the onrush of flood water. It is really a hazardous situation and they have not been able to decide what sort of protective works they should undertake as it is very difficult to visualise the future behaviour of the river Ai. Naturally it is taken for granted that if there is flood of the same intensity as there was last year and year before last, then the railway connection with the rest of India will again be interrupted. Even the road traffic between Dhubri and Bongaigaon had to be suspended for more than 3 weeks. At several places the access road went under water and the motor traffic was suspended, so the only route was the railway line from Dhubri to Bongaigaon. This shows the urgency of the alternate line because breaches will continue to occur for some time even if some improvements are made at different weak points. Above all the Ai presents a difficult problem and nobody knows how long it will be giving trouble. Therefore, Sir, this proposed stretch of line, which will be in the nature of an additional line, must be taken up at the earliest possible opportunity.

Secondly, Sir, from the point of view of a bridge, the site between Pancharatna and Jogighopa is the most convenient and suitable. The Assam Access Road crosses Brahmaputra at this site and it is the duty of the Government of India to main a ferry crossing for the purpose of traffic. If the railway line is also taken up along this alignment, there can be a road-cum-railway bridge there and this will be constructed at the cost of the Central Government. This point at which the Assam Access Road and the Railway line will meet will be the ideal place for the bridge.

Then, Sir, along with this comes the question of an alternative or additional rail route from Golokganj or Fakiragram to the rest of India. The additional line from Pandu to Bongaigaon *via* Goalpara may save us from the frequent breaches caused in the railway line between Amingaon and Bongaigaon. But the link line between Fakiragram and Siliguri is similarly vulnerable. This year also there were numerous breaches on this line and traffic had to be suspended for more than three weeks. Therefore, Sir, there has been a move by the people of Bengal to have a line further below, from somewhere near Jalpaiguri and coming upto Golokganj avoiding the submontane region of the North Bank, which is subject to devasation by hill rivers. I know, there is such a move from Bengal and the Government of India are considering that aspect of the matter. Therefore, Sir, these two things are inter-connected. So far as Assam is concerned, it is quite obvious that unless this communication bottleneck is removed, I don't think we have any future. All our development plans, as Mr. Nath has said just now, will remain unimplemented. It will not be possible to put them into execution unless we have a safe and uninterrupted rail link from Assam to the rest of India. We have found how money is being surrendered for inability to execute works particularly in the hill areas for want of necessary materials; even explosives could not be brought to Assam for difficulties of communication. If we have got to suffer like this, it will be very difficult for us to carry on. We have drawn up big schemes for development, the implementation of which will need vast quantities of materials to be brought to Assam. If we could bring them and implement our plans, we could set up many industries and make ourselves self-sufficient in many ways. As I said before, our future progress is linked up with this question of having a safer alternative rail link with the rest of India.

Sir, in this connection I would like to remove any misapprehension from the minds of those who think that by construction of this alternate line *via* Goalpara, the line between Amingaon and Bongaigaon will be abandoned. There is no cause for such apprehension because that is an important line and must be maintained. During winter months, traffic will continue to move by that line and that is also a shorter route. Also, unless that is maintained, we cannot have any railway line from Rangiya to North Lakhimpur. It will be possible to remove some weaknesses of this line by putting up better protective works and better bridges. We should draw the attention of the Central Government to this fact and press them to give special attention to the State.

of Assam so far as communications are concerned. If this is done, there is no reason why our Government will not be able to solve various vital problems of our State in the near future. With these few words, I support the Resolution.

Shri RAMPRASAD CHAUBEY : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह प्रस्ताव बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है, इसके महत्व तथा आवश्यकता को देखते हुए मैं इसका हार्दिक समर्थन करता हूँ।

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by my Friend, Shri Ananda Chandra Bezbarua.

Sir, the cry of the day is for roads, more roads and yet better roads. In the pre-historic days, if you read the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, you will find that communications were very developed. Lord Shri Krishna came from Dwarka in Saurashtra to Assam through airways and he landed at Sadiya in Assam. Then, we find that Narad's vehicle was *Dheki*, the husking peddle, which was a highly-developed means of communication. Others also travelled by air. This is the story of pre-historic days. Now, coming to the historic age, we find that Vasco De Gama, Magallions, Tevarniers, Columbus and others explored the high seas and discovered many lands like America. Then we find that Huen Tsang from China and other people from distant countries used to travel great distances. In those days they were termed as great discoverers and travellers and explorers because ways—land or sea—were very imperfect. Now, Sir, in this advanced age we have taken to metal roads, railways, aeroplanes and other means of communication. It is therefore, obvious that without good means of communication no country can prosper. This Resolution for a safe and alternative rail link between Assam and the rest of India, is a very important Resolution and many Members, including our Deputy Minister Shri Das, have spoken on it. They have given very cogent reasons why this should be taken up without delay. I do not want to repeat what they said. I would only say that Assam cannot rise to its full heights unless we get this alternative railway line. If Assam is to be developed and Garo Hills thrown open, there is no other course. Our Government should, therefore, urge on the Government of India to take up construction of this alternative line at the earliest. I am sure, Sir, this House will give its unstinted support to the Resolution, which has been moved by Mr. Bezbarua and supported by others.

Shri EMONSINGH SANGMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by my Friend, Shri Bezbarua, and in this connection I would like to say a few words. I have two main points to discuss, the first is improvement of our communications from the State to outside.

Through our past experience, as my Friends have said, when there is a disruption of railway communication from Pandu westward, if this railway line from Bongaigaon *via* Goalpara to Pandu is constructed then we can have an alternate communication to outside Assam, and besides the people of Assam and also the people from outside the State, who come to Assam and go outside Assam, will be very much benefited. Our experience is and we know and have seen by our own eyes that people who were stranded during railway disruption particularly during the rains, are packed up at Goalpara with the result that it becomes very difficult to come to Gauhati side. When we want to come to Gauhati for certain work or business, we felt great difficulty to get seats in the buses.

Sir, I do not mean that the existing railway line from Amingaon towards west should not be maintained, rather; my view is that it should be maintained and there should be improvements. But there must be an alternative railway line as suggested in the Resolution.

The other point is with regard to the improvement of the country. In this connection, I would suggest that most backward areas, like my district, Garo Hills, requires special attention. Now, since after Partition, our people are passing through enormous difficulties with the result that it has become difficult for their existence. If this line is constructed, I am definite that it will go a long way to help the people of Garo Hills to improve their economic condition, as mere extensive and intensive cultivation of cotton and other things and plantation of fruits will serve no useful purpose, as they cannot get a ready market within the district, unless these products are transported outside the district. I would urge upon the Government for improving the country and along with it affording facilities for export from our district. There are cement and coal in our district, if they are exploited we would want facilities for export. What I feel is that if things can be exported from my district in that case these things will be available in the other districts of the State besides exporting to other places in the country beyond Assam, even the world will be benefited. If our products are to be exported *via* Amingaon, only as is done at present, export charges will be very high. At present due to absence of this Railway line connection as an alternate communication, development

works are also being hampered besides; increased export and import charges to our district from this point of view, I strongly suggest that a Railway line from Bongaigaon *via* Goalpara to Amingaon is taken up for construction at a very early date connecting Railway line proposed to be constructed to inside Garo Hills at the most convenient point; and I hope, my Friends in this House will be unanimous in whole-heartedly supporting this Motion as amended by the Public Works Department Minister.

With these words, I strongly support this Motion.

Shri NARNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with the clear understanding that this Resolution is not for the purpose of doing away with the existing railway line from Bongaigaon to Amingaon but urging for its improvement, I take my stand to support the Resolution for a railway line from Bongaigaon *via* Goalpara to Pandu.

The existing route is to be improved by all means besides, there should be an alternate railway line. Assam is full of international boundaries and full of rivers and every year we feel difficulties during the flood period, so there should be a second railway line from Bongaigaon *via* Goalpara to Pandu. This line is necessary not only for the State of Assam, which is the nerve-centre of the whole of India, also it can be called the nerve centre of Asia, because it is surrounded by international boundaries, and thus it will serve the whole world. It is the bounden duty of the Government of India to see to the transport difficulties of Assam. They are managing North East Frontier Agency and for want of materials, works in North East Frontier Agency are hampered. The Sixth Scheduled districts are also suffering in this respect for want of materials. They cannot progress unless urgent construction works are immediately taken up. During rainy days, for two or three months the railway is disrupted. Considering these important aspects, it is the duty of the Central Government without even passing this Resolution, to give substantial help to Assam. They have not handed over North East Frontier Agency to us so they have their bounden duty to keep the transport unhampered. Not only that but Assam has one of the biggest oil fields, in the world, besides it meets a great demand of tea of the world. If communication in Assam is improved, that will not only go to help Assam but it will go a great way to enhance the income and resources of the Central Government.

So, Sir, my humble submission from that point of view

is that we should see that we must have our communications with the rest of India. Apart from this, Sir, there is also a difficulty in regard to military affairs, there may be, Sir, a military exigency, how shall we be able to meet the situation unless we have our transport and communications with the rest of India? So, Sir, my humble submission to the House is to move the Central Government for our benefit as well as for the benefit of India to give us the second line as early as possible. Sir, Assamese people have been in various difficulties in various ways. I am not going to express all these things now. So, Sir, my humble submission is that the 40 miles of communication with the rest of India should be kept unhampered by the Government of India. Sir, we are generally cut off from the rest of India by the work of the nature itself. So, Sir, considering our pitiable condition, I hope the Government of India will come to our rescue and I would request the Government of Assam to move the Government of India in this respect, so that we may have the second line as early as possible.

With these few words, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by my friend.

Maulavi SAHADATALI MANDAL: মাননীয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় উপমন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে দাঙিধৰা প্ৰস্তাবটো মই সৰ্ব্বান্তঃকৰণেৰে সমৰ্থন কৰিছো। মই ইয়াতে মাত্ৰ এটা কথা কওঁ যে গাৰো পাহাৰত মৰাপাট, ধান আদি কম হয়; ফল মলেই যেনে আনাৰস, কল আদি, বেচি হয়। যানবাহনৰ অভাৱত নাৱেৰে ধুবুৰী আদি ঠাই পাবলৈও ৩৪ দিনতকৈ বেচি সময় লাগে। ফলত আধা পচি যায়, আৰু আধামান কম দামত বিক্ৰি হয়। আনকি গাৰো পাহাৰৰ নামনিত গৌৱালপাৰাতেই এনে কিছুমান ঠাই আছে যত যাতায়াতৰ অসুবিধাৰ কাৰণে আনকি মালভোগ কলৰ থোকে ৩৪ অনাত বিক্ৰি হৈছে। সিও কেতিয়াবা বিক্ৰি নহয়। আনঠাইত সেই কলৰ দাম পাচসিকি দেবটকা।

এইবিলাকলৈ মন কৰিলে দেখা যায় এই প্ৰস্তাবটো অত্যন্ত প্ৰয়োজনীয় আৰু মই আকৌ সৰ্ব্বান্তঃকৰণেৰে সমৰ্থন কৰিছো।

Shri SARVESWAR BARUWA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to add a few words in support of the Resolution. Sir, I support this Resolution on two grounds. First it will explore many resources which lie hidden in the Garo Hills, for which there is already one or two schemes to exploit and tap them to enrich our own State. That is one reason, Sir. The

next reason is that if this railway line which has got the first priority in Assam is constructed, in that case the way for the fulfilment of other demands for such lines in the State may be opened. When the opening of this line which has been given the first priority has materialised, it will not only open the vista to the rich but unexploited Garo Hills region but will also lead the way for other backward areas like North Lakhimpur and the adjoining North-East Frontier Agency areas which may have the chance of getting the railway lines extended there soon. Sir, from Tezpur to Dibrugarh there is a vast area which is still not served by any speedy means of communications. Sir, the area of this region will be not less than 3,000 to 4,000 square miles and a population of about 5 to 6 lakhs.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is not the subject matter of the Resolution.

Shri SARVESWAR BARUWA: I lend my support to this Resolution because when this line which has already got the first priority is constructed, then the people living in that vast area which is still undeveloped may get the chance to fulfil their demands in the near future. The demand of the people of this area for a railway line may have the second priority, therefore, I say that this line as mentioned in the Resolution should be constructed as early as possible. Now, Sir, there are also immense natural resources lying untapped in the vast area between Tezpur and Dibrugarh.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are not going in line with the Resolution.

Shri SARVESWAR BARUWA: Sir, unless and until this demand of ours is fulfilled.....

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please confine yourself to the Resolution.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): The hon. Member means to say that unless the line which has already got the first priority materialised, there is no chance of other areas like North Lakhimpur and others getting a chance in future for a railway communication and that there is no chance of taking up any project in future.

Shri SARVESWAR BARUWA: Yes, Sir, as I said that unless and until the line now already proposed to be taken up materialises, there is no chance of other areas being served by railway system and they may have to wait for ages to come and I say that the area mentioned by me is also not less important, but that since priority has been already given to the

proposed line, by the State Government as well as by the Central Government. Sir, unless this line is first and immediately taken up, there is no hope for North Lakhimpur and other backward places to have a railway system for many years. But if this is done without further delay, it will not only increase the wealth of the country, but would expedite the opening of other important and essential rail roads in the State. So, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by my Friend.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shall we sit for another 15 or 20 minutes more ?

(After a pause)

Tomorrow we may sit for another half an hour after 4 P.M. for discussion on Private Members' Resolutions.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 1-30 P.M. on Friday the 25th November, 1955.

Shillong :
The 27th July 1956. }

R. N. BARUA,
Secretary,
Legislative Assembly, Assam.

Josephine

8/1/86

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